

PLAIN TALKS

JULY, AUGUST, 1976



PLAIN TALKS

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ABOUT THE COVER

It's supposed to be the largest, moving salute to the American Bicentennial in Baton Rouge. The Gulf States Bicentennial Street Light Van — Unit 3123. The decoration was the idea of Robbie Zeringue and David Bowman, draftsmen in the Baton Rouge T&D engineering department. They scheduled all the design and painting around their regular work. The inspiration came after Zeringue and Bowman thought Gulf States should surpass several local industries, which had painted some storage tanks in Bicentennial colors. Their supervisors went along with the idea, and now some Baton Rouge street lights are changed in style. (Not visible in the cover picture — inadvertently — is the 50-year logo of Gulf States painted on the van's door.) Changing out the street light on the cover is Tim Bryant, serviceman first class in Baton Rouge. More on the painting project on page 1.





Robbie Zeringue

Happy Birthday, America!

... from Robbie, David & friends

Changing street lights may not have profound Bicentennial significance. But Robbie Zeringue and David Bowman and their friends have assured that many Baton Rouge residents will get a continuing charge of patriotic spirit when they see a street light replaced.

The men designed and painted a Bicentennial salute onto Unit 3123 — a Company street light van. The vehicle is now emblazoned with "America," the Liberty Bell and the Gulf States 50-year logo.

The idea came to the pair of Baton Rouge T&D draftsmen (Zeringue is now on a survey crew) when several other Baton Rouge industries painted storage tanks and other structures in striking red, white and blue Bicentennial patterns.

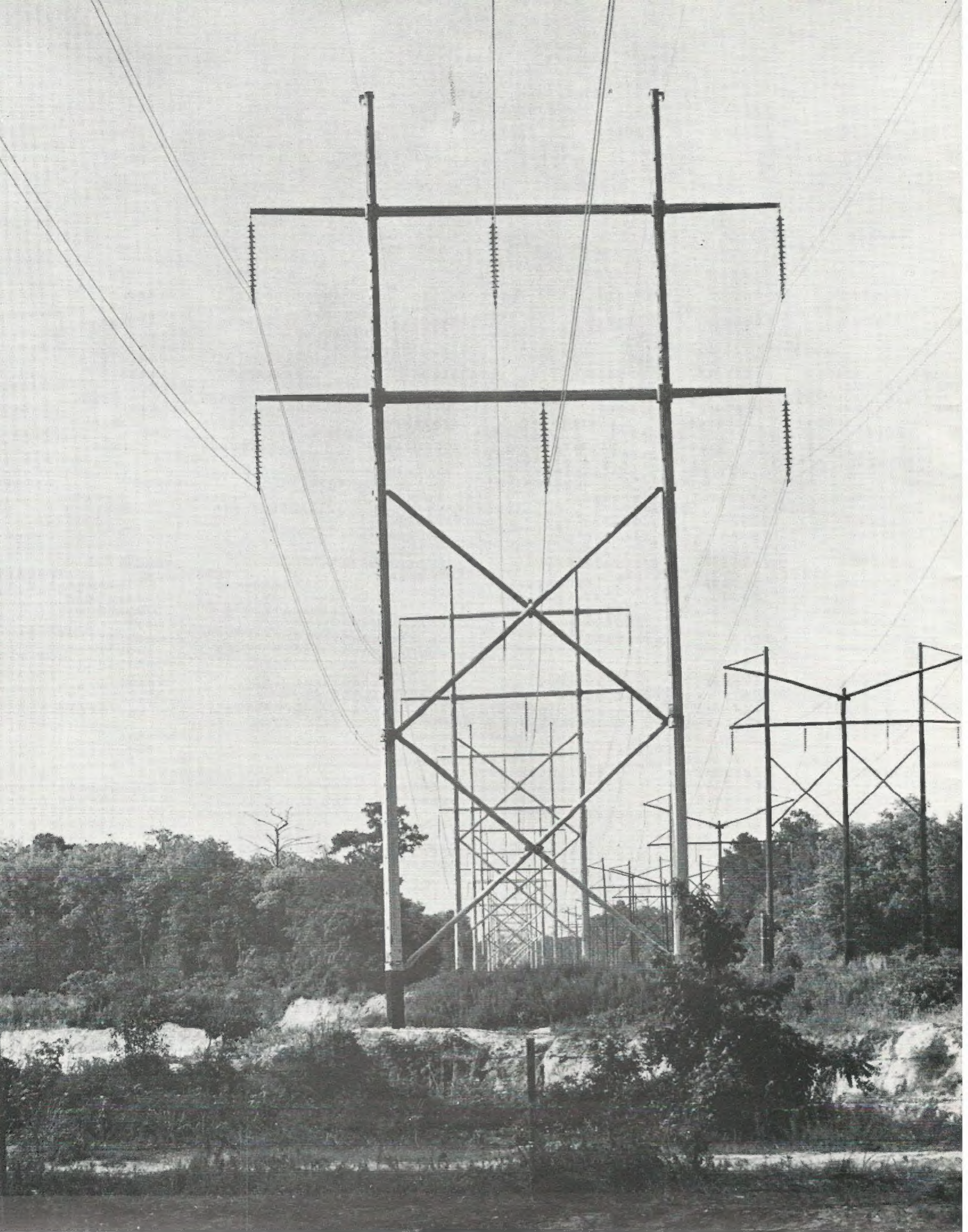
Not to be outdone, Gulf States needed something

better, they thought. Not something stationary. But rather a mobile tribute — like a decorated line truck.

They broached the idea with Dewey Lytle, division engineer, who indicated Bill Barksdale, electric operating superintendent; and George Cannon, division manager, would likely be receptive to the project.

The draftsmen indicated they could schedule the painting around their regular work and in their spare time.

No line truck could be held out of service long enough to paint, so Unit 3123 — the street light van — was donated by the service department. It was cleaned and painted white in the division garage and turned over to the artists. Zeringue (above) and Bowman were joined by David Corbitt, who helped with the design; Ronald Lockwood and Milton Franklin.



Going to Georgetown

15 miles of muck and mush

When Georgetown Steel located its new steel mill in Orange County across the Neches River from Beaumont, the firm knew it would need a lot of electricity. Each of its two arc furnaces would consume 50 megawatts, with a peak plant load of about 80 megawatts.

Eighty megawatts is more than the entire Gulf States system used in 1936. It's nearly the full capacity output of the Toledo Bend Dam generators. And it's more than triple what the entire Vidor area nearby uses on the hottest summer day.

Getting that much electricity to Georgetown's plant turned out to be quite a chore. Though just across the river from Beaumont, the plant is 15 miles from the nearest 230kV line. Much of that 15 miles —

especially that closest to the plant — is marshy and difficult to work in or to move machinery through.

And then there's the matter of a substation. The mill requested voltage at 34,500 volts and at 13,200 volts. That required four transformers — two for each voltage.

The entire project — transmission line and substation — cost nearly \$6 million. That's a lot of money. But Georgetown's electric bill is expected to run more than \$2.5 million per year.

The new line was routed (see map, page 6) from the corner of the existing 230kV line, which runs from Sabine Station to Hartburg, west parallel to Interstate 10, north of Vidor and then south across the Rose City Sand Pit and Interstate 10 and into the



plant area.

The two miles closest to the plant caused the most problems, since that area is "deep" marsh. The 10 structures erected nearest the mill had to be built on steel pilings sunk some 65 feet into the swamp. The surface — if you'd call it that — alone would not hold the towers steady. L. E. Myers was the prime contractor for that segment of the line. Spence Howe was the piledriving contractor, and Bellbottom drilled the pilot holes for the pilings.

At one point 60 drag line mats were needed to keep equipment from sinking into the muck. Some of those mats, moreover, were not recovered.

The Bellbottom auger had to be saw-toothed to bore through cypress stumps submerged throughout the area.

"You have to drill through the stump, so it doesn't drive the piling off course," said "Cuz" Cowart, line foreman.

Even the less swampy sections were loaded with deceptive mud. One subcontractor used a lift bucket

attached to the body of an old Patton tank to traverse the area. The vehicle still got stuck several times.

Payne and Keller was prime contractor of the non-deep marsh line sections. HiLine and R. D. Cooper were principal subcontractors.

The entire line contains 107 structures. Except for three-pole corner structures, the line is held up by steel pole "H-frame" structures. A typical structure cost some \$13,200 to purchase and construct. Wire for one double circuit, 900-foot span between structures added another \$10,000.

The voltage on the line — 230,000 volts — is so high that two wires carry the current better than one large one. The stranded aluminum conductor used is about one inch in diameter and consists of 37 smaller wires wound together. Each pair of conductors is kept from touching each other by spacers placed midway between each structure.

Since the line is double-circuit and takes two wires for each of the three phases, a total of 12 wires are



James Moore(left) and Frank DeMouchette install spacer

carried by each tower. The entire 15-mile line actually used nearly 200 miles of conductor.

Look closely at every other structure, and you'll notice small dumbbell-like devices placed on each wire near the insulators. These are dampers used to subdue small, high-frequency vibrations which can wiggle the conductors until the wire breaks from fatigue at the insulators' clamps.

Coordinating the contractors' efforts to build the line was Paul Harrington, transmission construction coordinator. Harry Leicht, supervisor of relay and communications for Beaumont T&D, and Sherman Canfield, general substation foreman, handled the construction of the substation at the Georgetown end of the line.

The ground in the substation area would not support much of anything, according to Lee Goen, civil engineer. The firm layer 65 feet below the surface was even too weak. The foundation was extended about 100 feet deep before firm footing was found.

Pouring a foundation through 100 feet of mush is

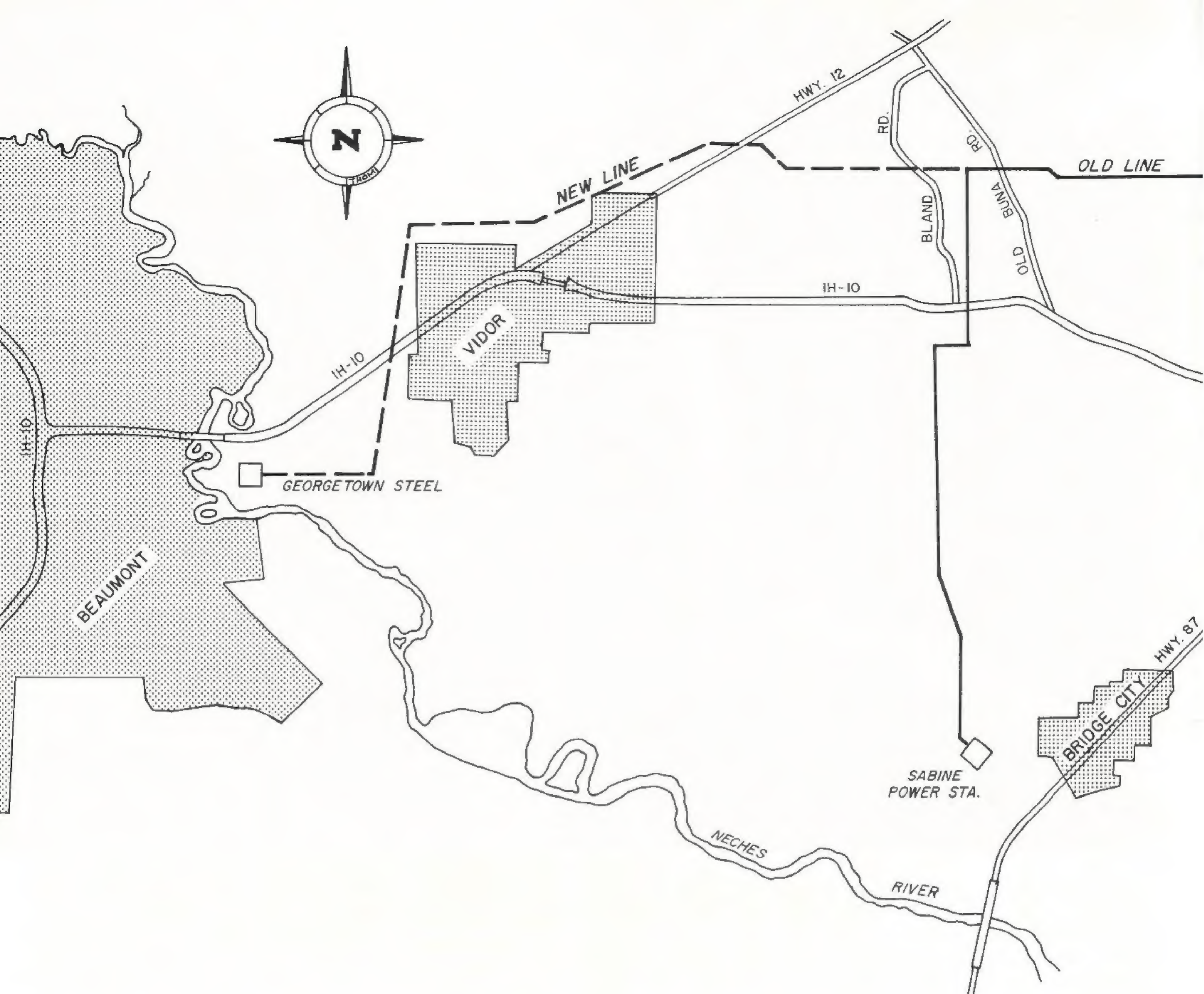
tricky, to be sure.

"We would bore a hole and then add drilling mud through the auger itself so the hole wouldn't collapse when we took the auger out," Goen said. "Then we'd pump concrete into the hole, displacing the drilling mud. The concrete solidified into a piling 100 feet long."

Such extensive work is necessary because the transformers and circuit breakers in the substation are very heavy. The two large transformers weigh about 272,000 pounds each. The smaller ones tip the scales at nearly 153,000 apiece. The circuit breakers — not your ordinary household type — weigh about 100,000 pounds and exert up to three times that force on the foundation when they open up.

Such big equipment is also expensive. The large transformers run nearly a quarter of a million dollars apiece. The smaller ones go for \$142,500 each, and the circuit breakers are \$54,000 per.

The Georgetown substation is unique in that it is the first large substation in the area with an "auto-



matic reclose" feature. Solid state control circuitry will automatically reset a breaker should a disruption be for only a short duration — such as lightning hitting the wire.

The breaker will not stay closed, however, if the problem persists — such as a line down or if some machinery is touching and grounding the line.

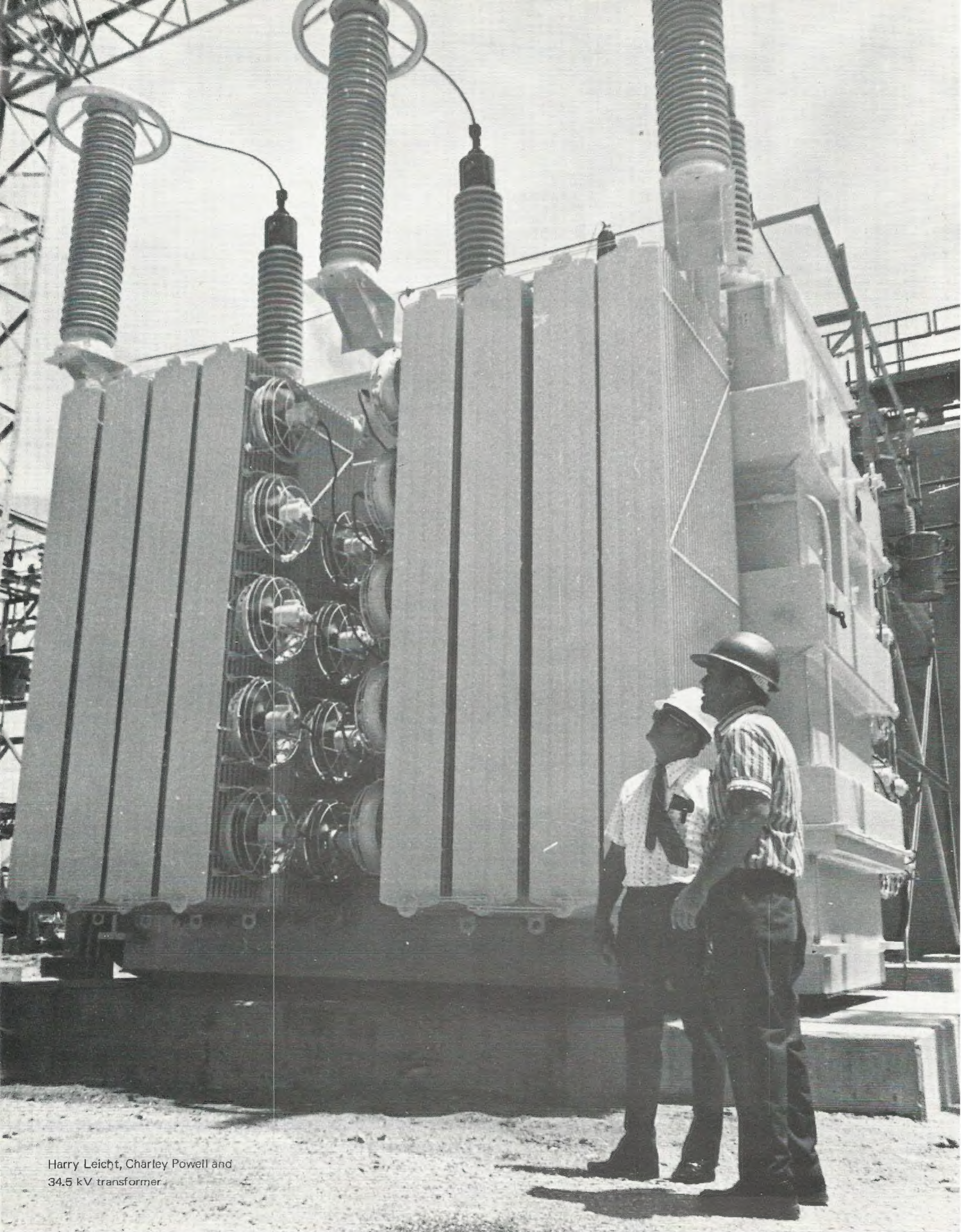
Another project associated with the Georgetown mill was the placement of microwave receiver/transmitter terminal atop the Main Office. The disk is aimed at a similar terminal on a tower near the substation. The new circuit relays control information to and from the Beaumont Service Center, where the substation's indications are located, and to Sabine Station and Hartburg.

One interesting problem that will be coped with when the Georgetown furnaces are put into use, is the

management of surges of power caused by firing up the carbon arcs. That's one reason the high-voltage line was used, the voltage acts as a big force pushing the electricity to the user. Thus a high voltage line is less susceptible to "flickering" caused by momentary low voltage when a large load is turned on.

During the mill startup, furnace operators will have to learn to start up the furnaces with a minimum of surging. Until then, however, our system operators ought to have a wild time, coping with 50 megawatt spikes in demand.

Most homeowners don't realize what effort the electric company had to take to serve their houses. But it's not likely the folks at Gulf States or Georgetown Steel will soon forget the challenges and hassles of bringing 80 megawatts through the swamps to the Beaumont area's newest large industry.



Harry Leicht, Charley Powell and
34.5 kV transformer.

1976 festival of american folklife

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION • NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



The Ardoin Brothers performing in Washington. Russell Ardoin (left), Lawrence Ardoin, Camray Fontenot, Morris Ardoin and Alphonse (Boisec) Ardoin.

1976 festival of american folklife
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION • NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Cajun Music in the Capital



"How many of you can understand French?" the musician on the outdoor stage asked.

Only two or three of the hundred or so sitting watching the performance raised their hands in response.

"Well, where we come from, we speak French," the performer continued. "Most of our songs are in French and I hope you enjoy them, even if you don't understand the words."

The band struck up a rousing Cajun two-step and the audience clapped and cheered in exuberant delight.

The band is from Eunice, La., and is known as the Ardoin Brothers. Lawrence Ardoin, the drummer, is a second class mechanic at Nelson Station. The stage was the main festival at the prestigious Festival of American Folklife presented by the Smithsonian Institution and the National Park Service.

The festival has been held each summer for the past 10 years on the Mall in Washington D.C. This year — the Bicentennial year — the event was expanded and located between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial.

The Ardoin Brothers performed during the busiest period in the National Capital this year — the Fourth of July weekend — when artists from the South were featured.

The inspiration of the Ardoin Brothers' music is Alphonse "Boisec" Ardoin, the accordion player. Alphonse is father of Morris, guitar player and manager; Lawrence; and Russell, bass player.

1976 festival of american folklife

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION • NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Alphonse learned to play from his cousin, the legendary Amade Ardoin, the first Black in the area to make phonograph records (in the 1920s). Joining the Ardoins is the lively fiddler, Canray Fontenot.

Alphonse will be 60 in November — but he looks 20 years younger. He fathered 14 children. All five of his sons play musical instruments.

He picked up the name Boisee (Dry Stick) when he was young and worked in the fields. Alphonse would leave his work and seek cover whenever it rained — which is often in South Louisiana. When his boss asked him why he left the field during the rain, Alphonse said he didn't want to get wet.

"Oh, you must be one of those dry sticks — Boisee," the boss was to have said.

And the name stuck.

Alphonse and Fontenot formed a band more than 35 years ago, playing for dances in houses illuminated only by kerosene lamps.

Lawrence first learned to play violin when he was 11 years old.

"But then at age 15 I fell in love and sold the violin," he said.

Morris, Lawrence, Russell, Fontenot and another brother, Gustav, played together after Alphonse retired several years ago. But Gustav was killed in an automobile wreck two years ago and Alphonse came out of retirement to keep the group going.

Performance at the folklife festival was the foremost of many honors bestowed on the Ardoin band. They have played at several earlier Smithsonian folklife festivals, at the Newport Folk Festival, and in concerts in New York, Toronto and New Orleans.

While in Washington this year, they were asked to play in a festival in West Virginia, but the younger Ardoins had to return to their jobs in Louisiana.

"We play for the fun of it," Lawrence said. "We all have permanent jobs."

Russell and Morris are lumberjacks in Reeves, La. Lawrence, of course, works for Gulf States.

The band plays nearly every weekend at some central or South Louisiana night spot. Playing for the unfamiliar but wildly appreciative audiences in Washington was a thrill and a delight for the group.

"They didn't know what it was we're playing," Lawrence said. "But they sure like it."



Alphonse (left)
Alphonse
(Boisee) Ardoin



Morris Ardoin (left)
and Canray Fontenot



Michael (left), Martha and Don Ross with family scrapbook exhibit.

A family album

It's one thing to look at your family album at home — it's another thing to see strangers thumb through the album in a prestigious exhibit.

One of our family's albums — one covering my parents' wedding and first three years of marriage — was chosen by the Smithsonian Institution to be displayed in the Family Folklore section of the Festival of American Folklife in Washington D.C. this summer.

The museum last year asked for contributions for the exhibit. My mother offered several albums, family Christmas cards and other scrapbook material. The folklorists at the Smithsonian selected one album as "unique" and interviewed my mother on its purpose and contents.

Originally designed as a Christmas present to relatives, the album first showed my parents in typical activities around the house. Whenever possible, they used the wedding presents of those to receive a copy of the album. Supplements to the book were added as my older brother and I were born.

Typical shots included my father ("the neat one")

sweeping dust under the rug with the caption explaining that my mother's "Southern Belle" upbringing in Selma, Ala., did not include lessons in housekeeping.

My older brother was shown sitting down in front of the Bendix front loading washing machine captivated by ("supervising") the action of the suds viewed through the glass window.

My birth announcement — and drawn to resemble a theatrical announcement — was included. The entire exhibit was mounted on a wooden stand dominated by an enlargement of my parents taken before their marriage.

The display and fanfare given our family album by the Smithsonian should encourage other families to record their evolutions.

Take pictures and record your reactions to major events in our lives. Years from now you can look back with joy, and nostalgia. You'll remember all the good times of the "good ol' days."

"Everyman's his own historian," according to Carl Becker, former president of the American Historical Association.

— Mike Ross

Electrician
Ronnie Branch
atop the Beaumont
Savings Building.



District Chief
Nick Hill
sounding the siren.



Weekly lunch special

No one working in Beaumont who can hear ever forgets when it's lunchtime on Mondays.

The city's 10 civil defense sirens are tested each Monday noon, sending their screaming voices penetrating through every building in town.

"We've never had to blow them for anything other than to test," said E. C. "Nick" Hill, district chief for fire alarm communications for the Beaumont Fire Department and the man who decreed the sirens sounded every Monday noon.

"They needed to be tested once a week," Hill said. "I decided noon Monday was as good as any other time, so that's when we blow them."

The sirens, of course, were originally intended to warn of an enemy attack. They were installed in 1958 during the height of the Cold War for nearly \$20,000. Three sirens are large (7.5 horsepower) and seven are small (five horsepower).

Since they're meant for emergency use, it's surprising that they are operated with normal Gulf States electricity from the alarm room of the main fire station in downtown Beaumont. The fire station also has a backup auxiliary generator, should power be disabled by an enemy attack.

The sirens are run by three electric motors. The blower motor compresses air for a loud sound; the howler motor spins the impeller to make the siren sound; and a rotor motor turns the siren's horn in a complete circle so the sound can be aimed in all directions. The siren in downtown Beaumont is atop the Beaumont Savings building.

The city at times has had voltage problems with the telephone lines that connect the fire station with the sirens. Radio signals and lightning can also touch off an alarm. Only seldom has a relay failed and a siren not passed its weekly test. More likely in the small sirens is a problem with squirrels — those friends of linemen — making nests in the impeller. "When the siren is turned on, the squirrel's body is forced through the holes in the impeller and jams it up," said Ronnie Branch, city electrician.

As the noon hour neared, Hill moved from his seat at the fire department console to a small, black box on a far wall. He gazed intently at a clock — radio-synchronized to the atomic clock in Fort Collins, Colo. When the second hand crossed the other two hands at noon, Hill pressed the "Manual" button. The familiar ascending wail of the siren is soon heard reverberating through downtown Beaumont. The intensity varies as the horn rotates. After a 35-second ring, Hill releases the button and the siren rests for another week.

Has any fire department dispatcher missed testing the sirens? "I haven't," Hill said. "But one operator did forget a few times. We try to impress on them to remember such things. We have so many things to do up here that a guy that forgets doesn't do very well in his job."

That instant — 12:02 p.m. — the phone rings in the alarm room and a bell soon sounds. A fire has been reported in West Beaumont.

Back to business.

But all Beaumont knows it's lunchtime.

RETIREES NEWS

The Sideliner's Club had an enthusiastic gathering at Prien Lake Park in Lake Charles June 16 attended by about 40 retirees. Most were from Louisiana, but W. A. "Buck" White traveled from Beaumont to be with his friends. Buck said he's been keeping busy fixing televisions at his brother's shop in Beaumont.

A. H. Demers has been restoring antique furniture and clocks. He also makes Early American cabinets, footstools and other wooden articles. His clocks range from 90 to 120 years old, he said.

"Oh, what good work that man does," a nearby admirer chimed in when she overheard our conversation about his woodworking.

"The secret is patience," Demers said. "I'm in no hurry. If they want me to make a piece for them, they'll get it when I'm finished."

As a result, Demers puts a lot of time into each piece towards achieving the quality he insists upon.

"If I were to charge on the basis of time, it'd be about two bits an hour," he said.



Sherman West, retired substation mechanic in Beaumont, reports his son, Sherman Ray West (above), was graduated from Vidor High School this past spring and plans to attend Lamar University. The elder West retired in 1970 after more than 40 years with Gulf States.

Sabre "Pop" Guidry continues to be the head celebrity in Abbeville.

His century plant (right) — the only one in Abbeville — bloomed recently, and the newspaper printed this picture. The plant blooms about every dozen or so years — not every hundred years that legends would have it.

Pop also is proud of his three-gallon crop of peaches from the tree in his yard. He also played the part of the groom in a festival-type wedding staged in Abbeville. He has a picture of him, entering the church, but his wife doesn't want it printed since she wasn't the "bride" in the staged affair.

The Guidrys also report their son-in-law, formerly editor of the Memphis *Commercial Appeal*, has been promoted to vice president of the Scripps-Howard newspaper chain and moved to New York City.

Andy Poulson, retired safety representative, has good news and bad news to report. The good news is that he survived open heart surgery in early May with flying colors. The bad news is that Poulson, a hemophiliac ("free bleeder"), developed hepatitis in late July from the 11 blood transfusions he needed during the operation. Poulson is reported recovering nicely from the illness.

Shed a tear for poor Neill Carpenter.

The retired supervisor of commercial and industrial sales in Lake Charles is moaning the fact he's had to spend a couple of weeks in the dreary climes of Lake Charles this summer. Seems "Scatter" and wife Marian have gotten spoiled by their largely expatriate life based in Guadalajara (see *Plain Talks* March, 1975), and the summer schedule has kinda gotten away from them.

Their "time" ran out in April. That meant they had to leave Mexico, since he doesn't have a permanent visa. No sense in returning right away, though, since Neill had his 50th graduation reunion at Texas A&M May 18; they were to join more than 5,000 other Airstream campers at a confab in Louisville, Ky.; and, finally, were set to take an American Association of Retired Persons tour of the Orient beginning July 18. Lake Charles just doesn't compare, apparently. It's a rough life, eh, Neill? He has a son, by the way, who's a geologist for Union of California working in Sumatra whom he'll be able to visit on his Far Eastern trip.



Mono line + mono

by Butch Suitt
Senior Engineering Assistant Drafting

Last fall I was fishing in a club tournament at Toledo Bend and had gathered in a respectable string during the day. Not enough to place, I thought, but still respectable.

Weighing in was in about 30 minutes, so I decided to try a little cove not far from the ramp. Just one 4 or 5-pound bass would move me into the money, I thought.

I cast a spinner bait beside an old log. Just as if my prayers had been answered, the rod was nearly torn from my hand. It'll go at least five — maybe six — pounds, I guessed.

The battle was on, but it didn't last long. During the third good run the fish made, my line went slack. I reeled it in and discovered a "curley-que" at the end of my line.

The monofilament line had come untied.

At that time I decided that learning the best knots to use with mono line can mean the difference between winning and losing the battle against the fish.

Mono line has probably done more to revolutionize fishing than any other invention. But with all its plus factors, it does have some negative aspects.

Mono is very strong, so it can be drawn to small diameters. But this small diameter makes it susceptible to even the slightest abrasion. A nick barely visible can drastically weaken the line. Another problem is that the slick mono line easily slips knots.

Line manufacturers are well aware of its problems and have invested many thousands of dollars to determine the best knots to use.

I've included here three of the best knots applicable to bass, crappie and bream fishing in our part of the country. They are the Crawford (Figure-Eight) Knot, the Improved Clinch Knot and the Palomar Knot. These knots have been shown to retain more than 90 per cent of the untied strength. Indeed, the improved clinch knot is designed to deliver 98 per cent of the rated line test for tying mono line to snaps, swivels, leaders and lures. Veteran fishermen find this knot an improvement on the standard clinch.

Incidentally, the simple overhand knot proved to be one of the weaker ties. It causes the line to break at about half its untied, rated strength.

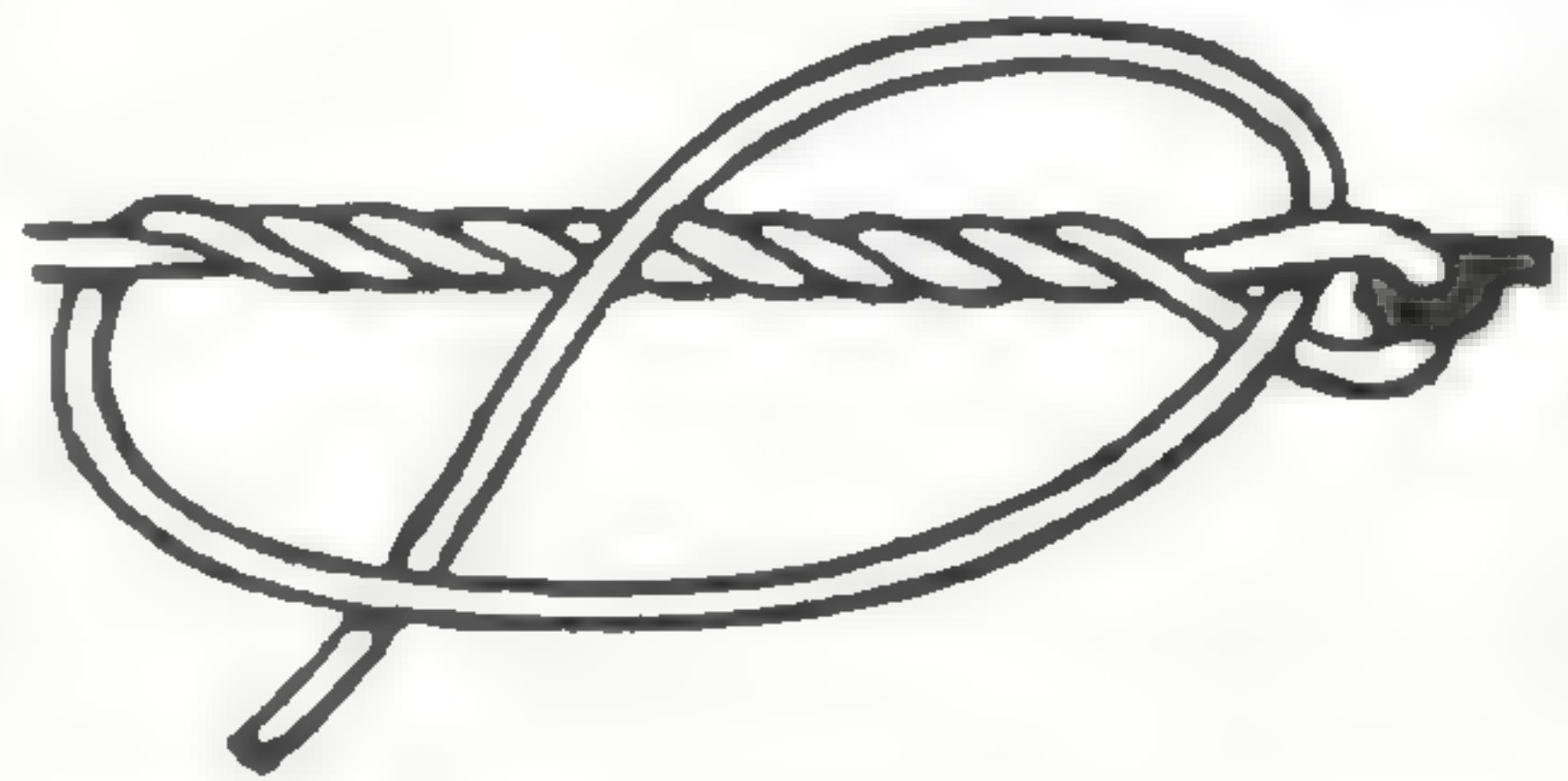
It's bad enough to lose a good fish due to lack of skill or by having the bad luck of hooking the fish in an especially tender part of its mouth. The skilled

angler can lose his quarry through heavy underbrush or through a malfunctioning rod or reel.

But nothing can be more exasperating than to have your fish — battled nearly to exhaustion and on his way to your waiting net — escape when a knot on the lure slips open or when the line breaks at a poorly-designed knot.

Learn the knots shown here. I won't guarantee you'll never lose another fish — but the odds will be improved in your favor.

Improved Clinch Knot



1. Thrust end of line thru eye of hook and double back. Loop around standing part of line 5 times.



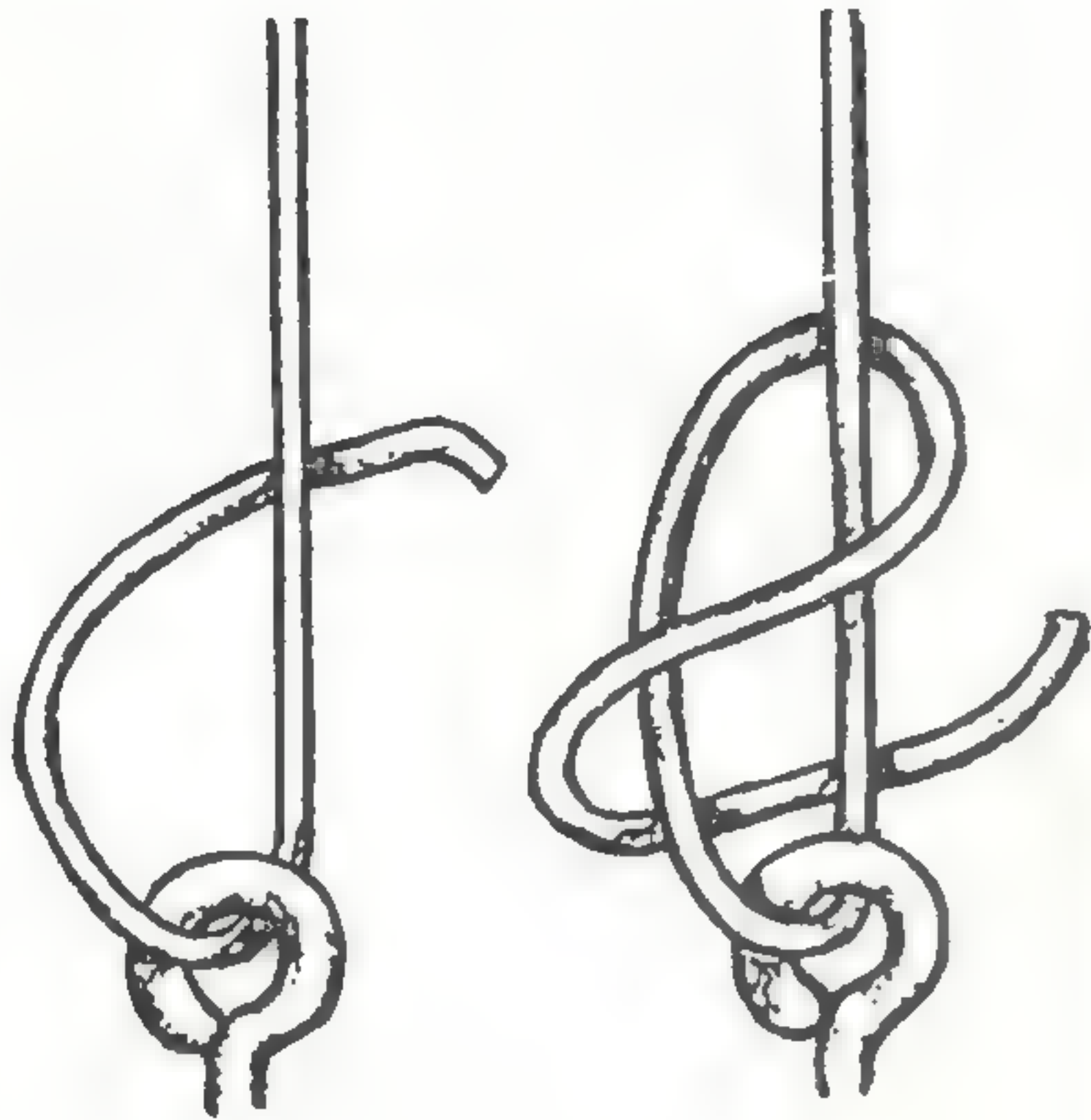
2. Thrust end back up between the eye and the coils then back thru the big loop.



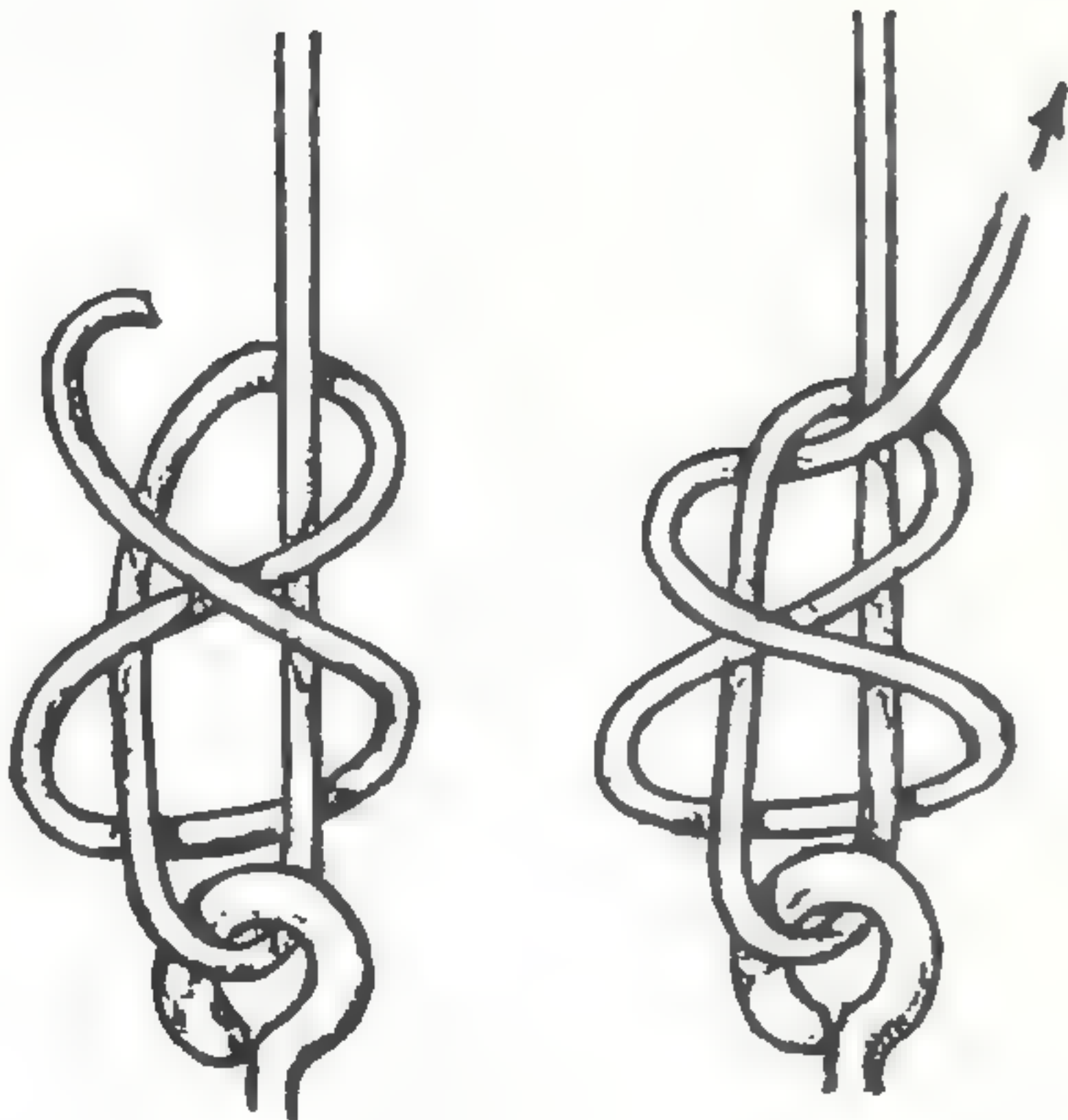
3. Pull up tight and trim end.

knots = Many fish

Crawford Knot



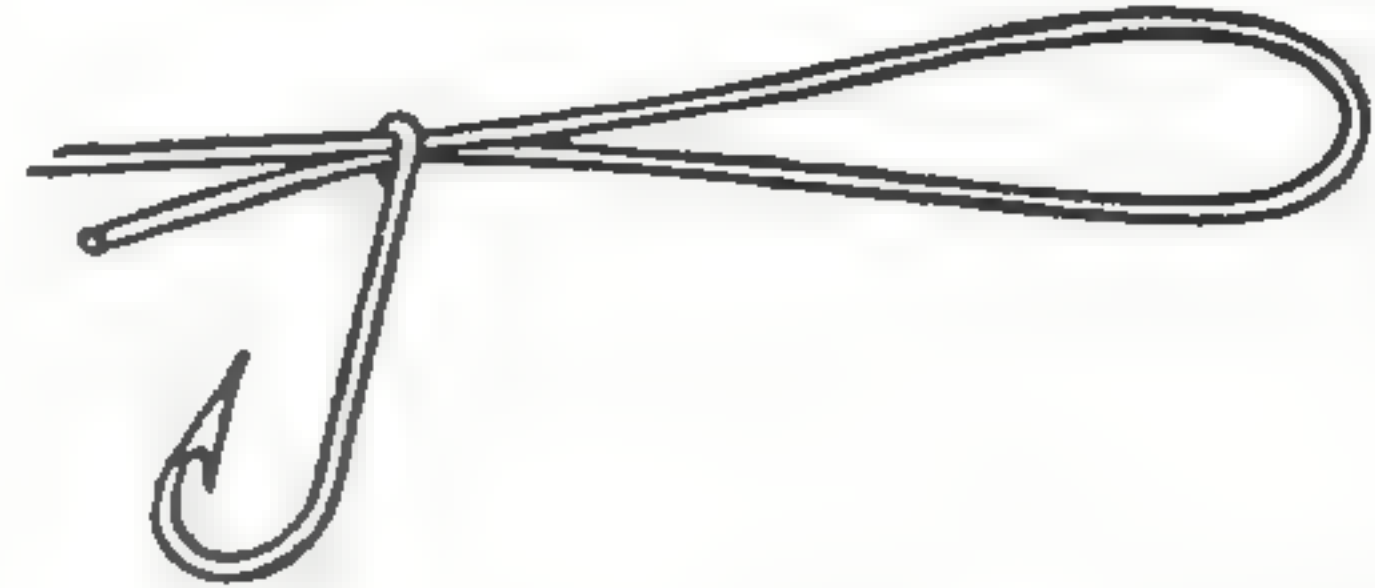
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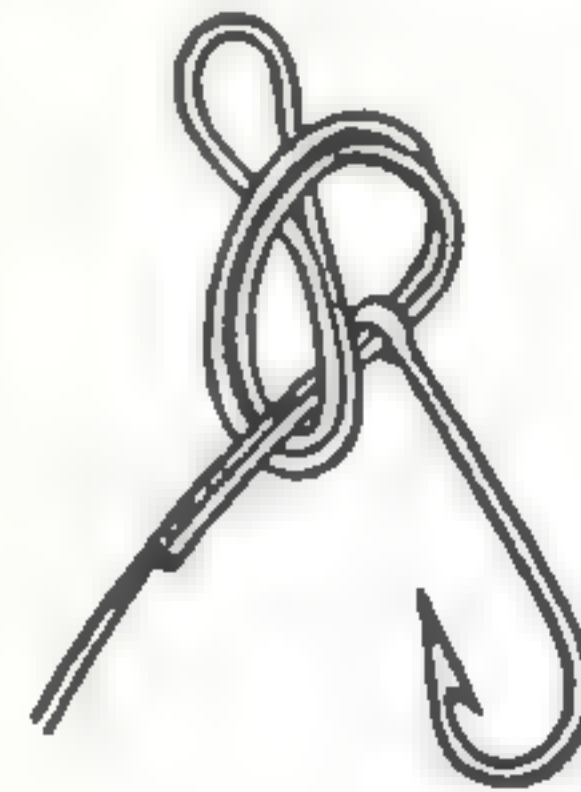
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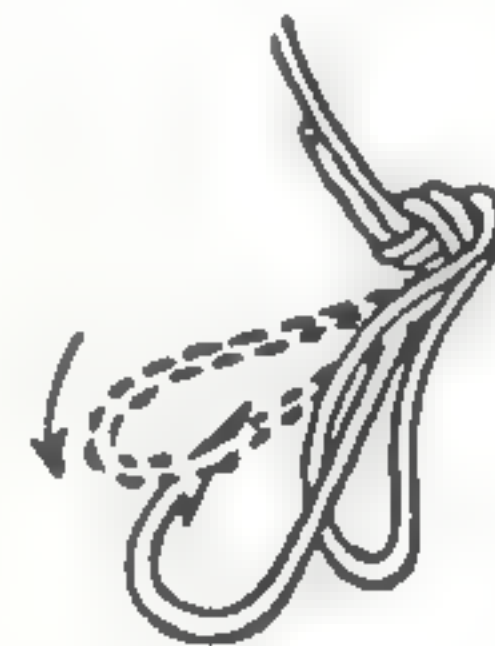
Palomar Knot



1. Pass line through eye of hook and then return end through eye, leaving a 3" to 4" loop.



2. Hold line and hook with thumb and forefinger of one hand at eye. Use other hand to grasp loop, bring loop back over the double line and tie an overhand knot. Do not tighten knot at this point.



3. Hold overhand knot with one hand. Grasp loop with other hand and pull loop over hook.



4. Pull on line to draw knot to top of eye. Pull either running line or short end to tighten knot. Cut off short end about 1/8" from knot.

SERVICE AWARDS



Albert W. Baird Jr.
Electric T&D
Beaumont



V. E. Blanchette
Electric T&D
Beaumont



Joseph R. Murphy
Executive
Beaumont



Luther M. Risher Jr.
Material Services
Beaumont

40
Years



J. W. Hebert
Electric T&D
Beaumont



Charles W. Elter
Division Production
Lake Charles



Patsy G. Acker
Division Accounting
Beaumont

10
Years



Charles W. Bordeman
Division Accounting
Beaumont



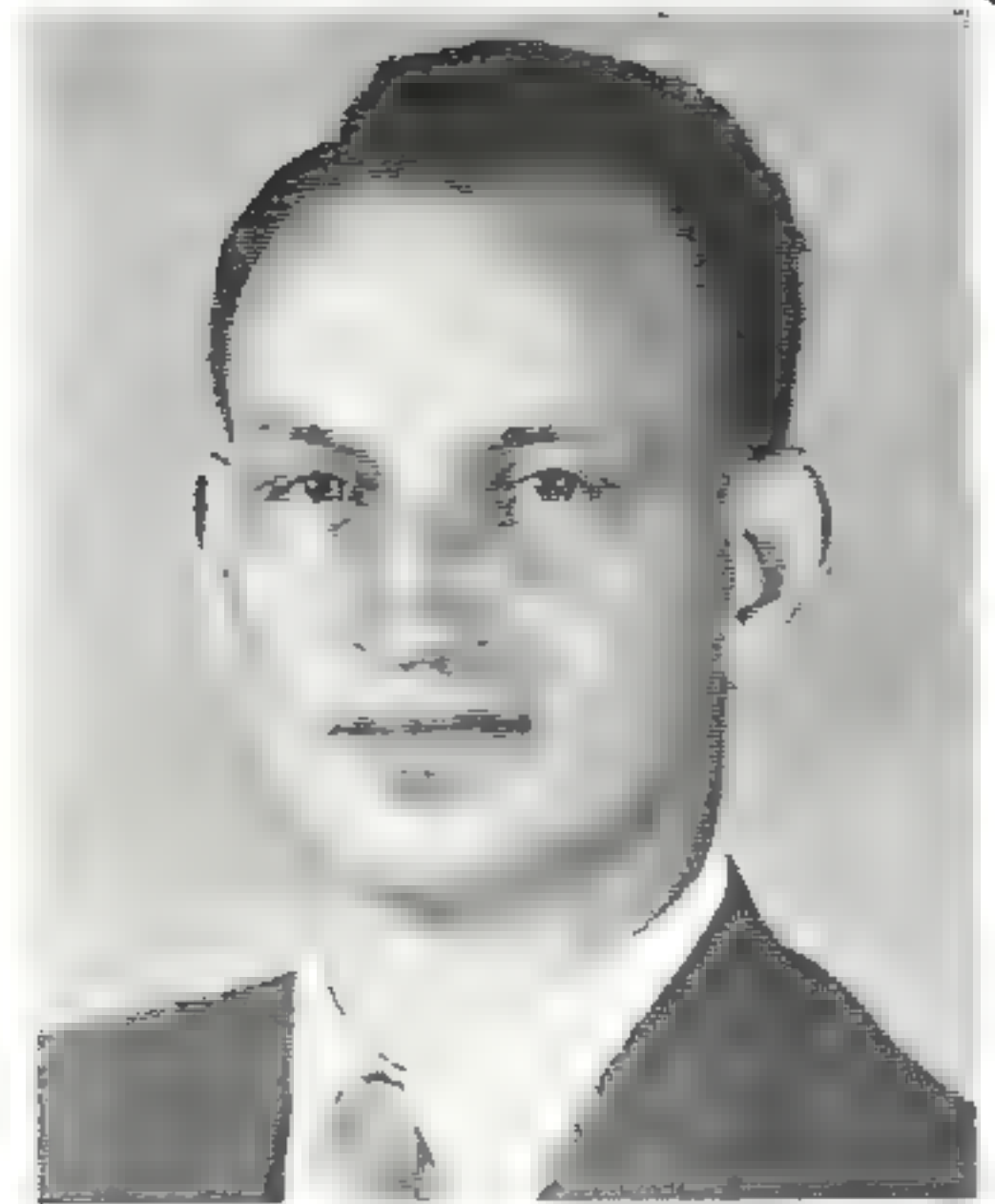
Leonard R. Shipman
Electric T&D
Dayton

Allen J. Hernandez
Electric T&D
Lafayette



20 Years

John L. Sullivan
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge



James W. Babin
Division Accounting
Baton Rouge



John Bell Sr.
Division Production
Beaumont

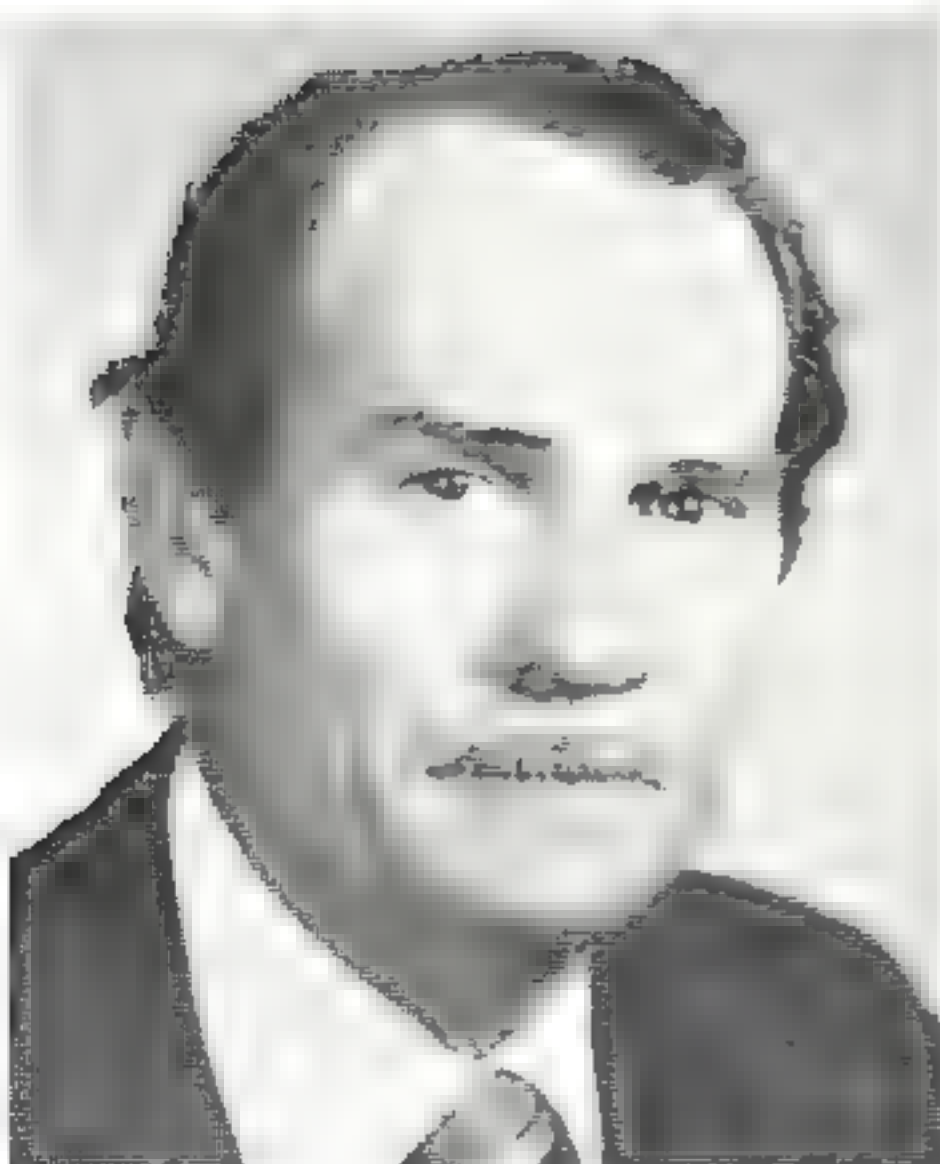


Orie S. Richardson
Division Production
Beaumont



Richard A. Hughes
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge

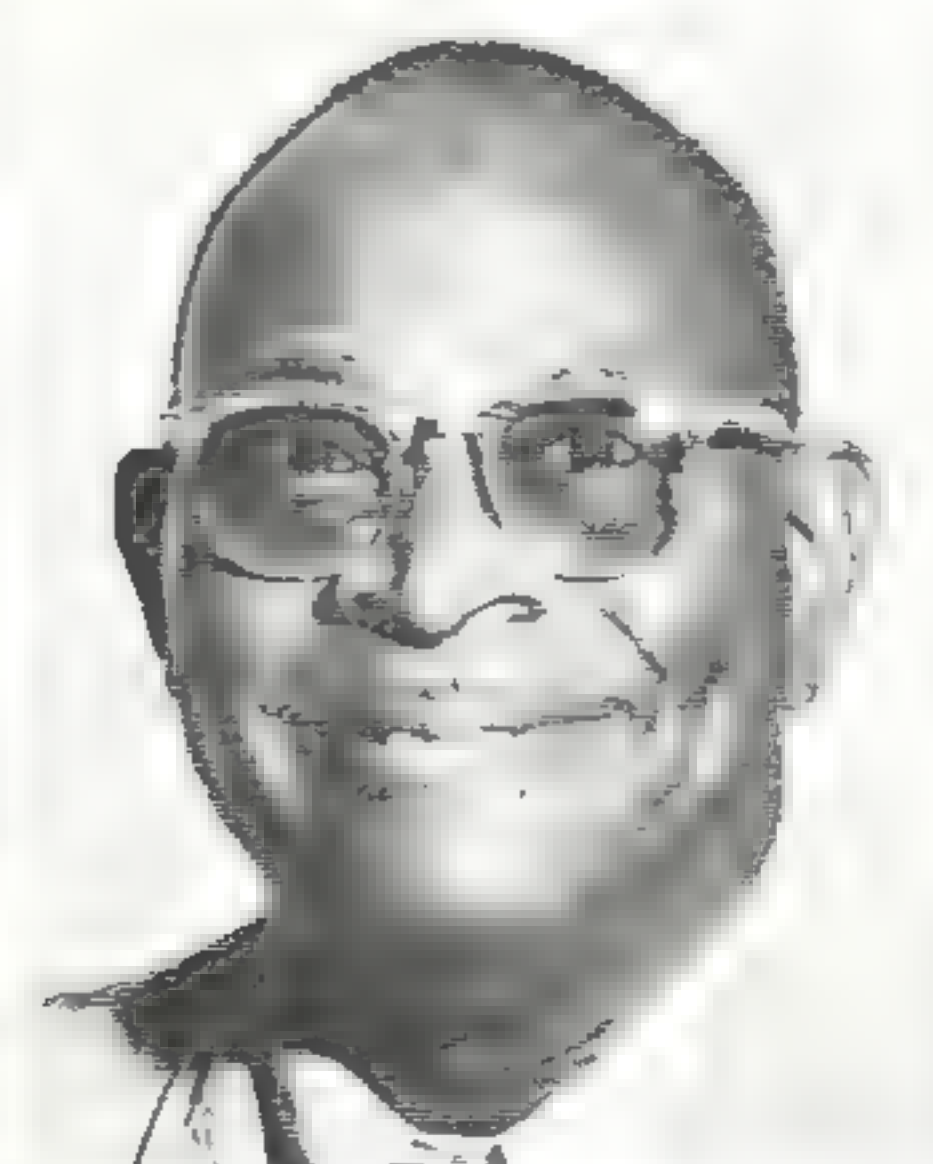
30 Years



Ray W. Pharo
Electric T&D
Port Arthur



S. J. LeBouef Jr.
Electric T&D
Orange



Will R. Goodman
Division Production
Beaumont



Clifton J. McGee
Division Production
Port Arthur

LETTERS

June 25, 1976

Mr. George Cannon,
District Supervisor
Gulf States Utilities Company
Post Office Box 376
Baton Rouge, La. 70821

Dear Mr. Cannon:

As I was leaving home this morning my wife asked me to check her Chrysler because she thought the radiator was leaking. I put my brief-case on top of my truck and went over and checked her car. Sure enough, her radiator fluid had leaked out. I asked her to contact Standard Motors and have them send for the car as this was the fourth time this had happened in a relatively short interval.

As you have guessed by now I drove away with my brief-case on top of the truck and came to the hospital. When I got to the hospital and found that my brief-case was gone I called my wife and asked her to have someone drive my usual route on the Interstate. This was not rewarding. Approximately 10 minutes later I received a phone call from one of your employees, who asked me if I was Dr. Brassett. I said yes. He said I have a Bologna sandwich that belongs to you. Needless to say this made me very happy, because along with the Bologna sandwich I had quite a few important papers in the brief-case, not to speak of a check for approximately \$1,400.

To make me even happier your employee, who was at Willow Glen Station, saw to it that someone coming to town during the day delivered my brief-case to me at the hospital.

This is certainly beyond the call of duty. I consider this a real act of kindness and I just thought I would let you know. I am sure you get enough letters with people complaining about your employees and things that they have done or failed to do.

Your employee in question is Mr. Kenneth McCullough of 3563 Edgemont in Park Forest.

Thanks again.

Sincerely,



Lynnwood J. Brassett, M.D.,
Director
Department of Radiology
Our Lady of the Lake Hospital
Baton Rouge, La. 70802

Mrs. JoAnn Smith
Consumer Service Supervisor
Gulf States Utilities Company
P. O. Box 2951

Dear JoAnn,

My senior year in high school is now coming to an end and I would like to express my gratitude to you for having faith in me, even though you had not known me before I came to work.

The opportunity which you gave me was much more than I expected. Training and working for a company such as Gulf States has been a great experience and pleasure for me. I have especially enjoyed meeting new and different faces everyday. I have been treated as an adult, having my own responsibilities and this was my goal from the beginning. Seeing the way a large company operates is very fascinating through the eyes of a high school student.

To make a long story short, I really appreciate your caring so much and giving me this opportunity.

Yours sincerely,



Linda Smith
HECE Student-1976
Bmt.-Charlton-Pollard

(Miss Smith worked in the Beaumont Division consumer service department as a Home Economics Cooperative Education student this past year. She is now majoring in nursing at Lamar University.)

Dear Mr. Joe Gresko,

I enjoyed your visit to our class. I know that you are very skilled at your job and I am somewhat interested in working in electricity. I was surprised by the different methods you use to perform your job as a linesman. If I had to work in the field of electricity I would most probably be a linesman. I again say that I am glad you came and will give you a hint to who I am. I am the person (boy) who carried your spikes from the truck to the classroom. I hope you will visit us again.

Sincerely,



Cecil Knott

(Mr. Knott's letter was one of 28 received by John Lamm, Lafayette district superintendent, from students at Arnaudville High School. Joe Gresko, serviceman first class who works the Arnaudville area, spoke May 12 to the science class of Mary C. Handayan.)

Gulf States Utilities Co.
Jennings, La.

May 19, 1976

Dear Sirs:

I'm writing to thank you for an enjoyable 2 to 3 hours observing your "Pole Men" and wonderful equipment.

The precision movements were equal to a military drill.

From my window I was enchanted. Great to know there are still men who seem to enjoy their work and do it.

Please convey my good wishes to these men.

Yours truly,

Mrs. Hayes

Mrs. Martha Amy Hayes

(The Jennings line crew of Lem Gravelle, foreman; Donald Murphy, lineman first class; and Rodney Ringuet, truck driver, installed a new distribution pole with a capacitor bank the day Mrs. Hayes watched from her home.)

Dear Mr. Mack:

May 25, 1976

Just wanted to say "thank you" to you, Mr. Goodman and all the men who worked so hard Saturday to correct the electrical problem.

You'll never know how much we appreciated your understanding the importance of the situation and the consideration shown us.

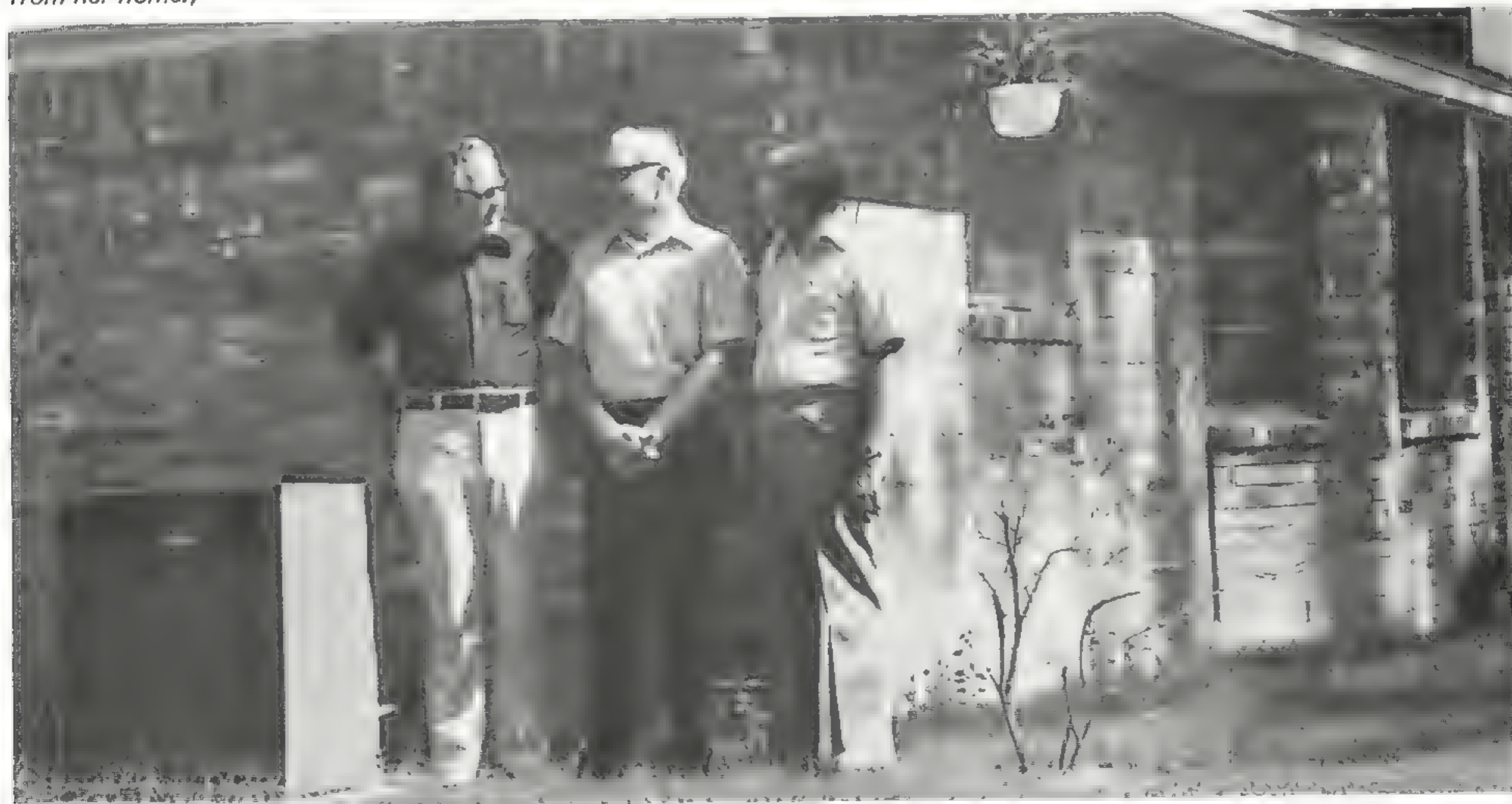
You know what they say — "The Show Must Go On." That was one time it would have been impossible without all of you.

Sincerely,

Beverly Butaud

Beverly Butaud
Butaud-Willis
School of Dance

(An underground failed the morning of May 22 at Conroe High School, where Mrs. Butaud had scheduled a dance recital that evening. Crews worked most of the day getting the auditorium back in service in time for "the show to go on." The letter was sent to Edwin Mack, division substation operator. Mentioned was Dan Goodman, general line foreman.)



PRACTICE WHAT WE PREACH — Victor Bradley, control operations foreman at Neches Station, has invested his money in lower electric bills by purchasing a house designed to reduce energy consumption. Bradley's Lumberton, Tex., home uses a high efficiency (E.E.R. = 7.8) heat pump to heat and cool the house. Walls are insulated to R 22 and caulked around the slab and windows to prevent infiltration of outside air. The attic is insulated to R 30 — using about 10 inches of insulation. The air ducts were designed with a low profile for maximum insulation, too. These improvements added about \$1,500 to the cost of the house, but Bradley is already receiving dividends. The house is quiet, for one. His last electric bill was \$41, while his neighbors paid upwards of \$70 for electricity. Bradley said the new owner of his old house in the South Park area of Beaumont used \$58 worth of electricity. That house is 400 square feet smaller and does not have an electric water heater, Bradley said. Pictured with Bradley (center) are Builder Hugh Haley and Insulator Herman Quinton.

DEATHS



James E. Dulany

James E. Dulany, 76, retired mechanical maintenance foreman at Louisiana Station, died June 6 of heart disease at Baton Rouge General Hospital.

A native of Cheyenne, Okla., Dulany attended schools in Clinton, Okla., and Bethel, Tex. He joined the Company in 1926 as a pipefitter at Louisiana Station.

In 1936 he was named pipefitter foreman and was promoted to maintenance foreman 17 years later. Dulany became mechanical maintenance foreman in 1959. He retired in 1964.

Survivors include his wife, Thelma J. Dulany of Baton Rouge; one daughter, four sons, three sisters, two brothers and 10 grandchildren.

Mamie B. Voyles, 77, retired home service advisor in Port Arthur, died June 12 in St. Mary's Hospital of cancer.

Mrs. Voyles was a native of Newton, Tex., and was graduated from Merryville (La.) High School and Draughton Business College.

She joined Gulf States in 1922 as an application clerk in Port Arthur. She was named a home economist in 1931, home service advisor in 1943 and senior home service advisor in 1949.

Mrs. Voyles retired in 1963.

She is survived by her husband, Jack Voyles, and a cousin, Garnet Clayton, both of Port Arthur.

Franklyn G. Hornsby, 73, retired Baton Rouge electrical operating superintendent, died May 7 of heart disease.

A native of Grangeville, La., Hornsby was raised in Lutch, where he graduated from high school. He joined the Baton Rouge Electric Co. in 1924 as a meter checker. He progressed to foreman, supervisor and superintendent of the meter and service departments. In 1952, he was named operating supervisor and was promoted to electrical operating superintendent 13 years later.

He retired in 1968.

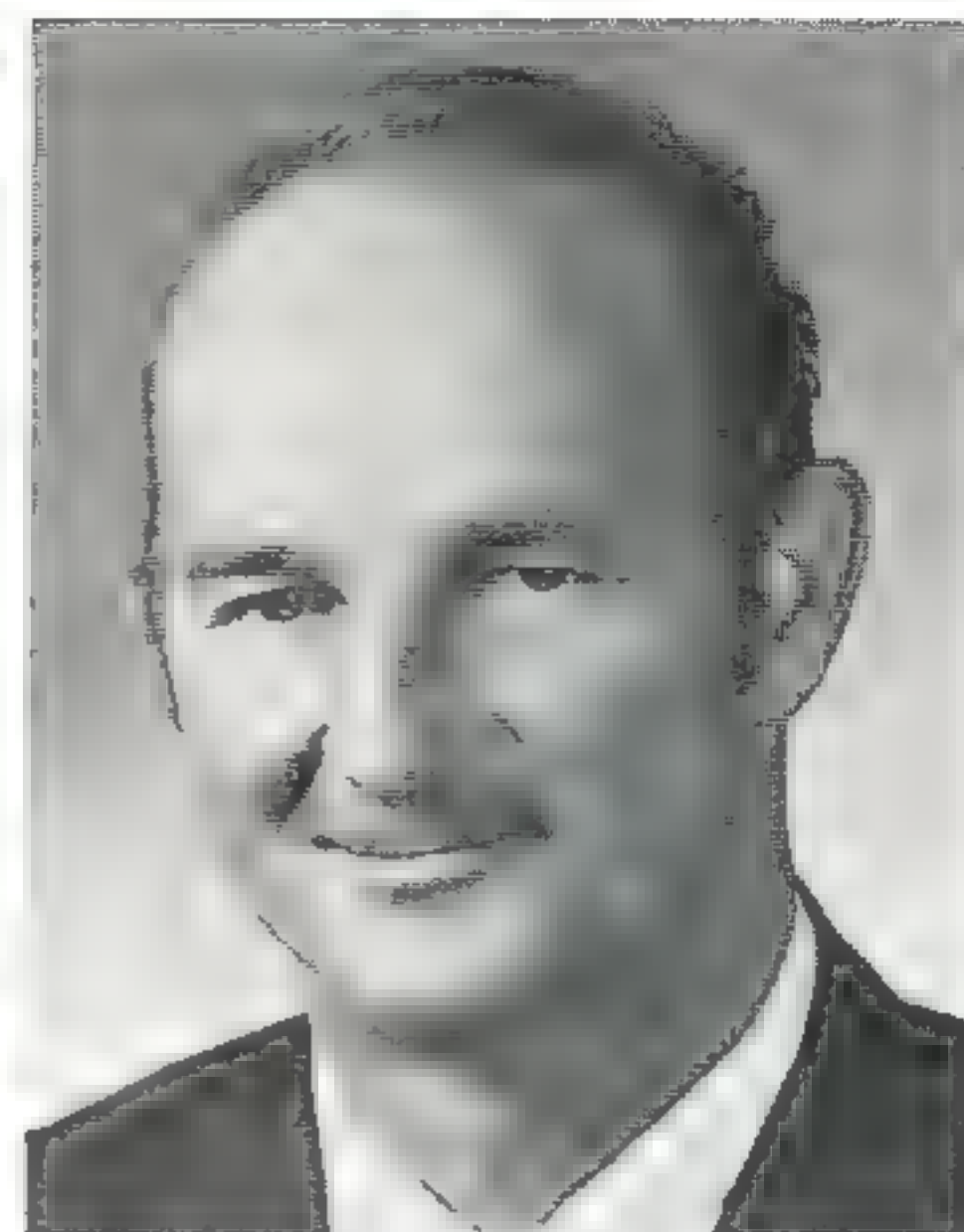
Hornsby was a member of the administration board of Istrouma United Methodist Church, president of the Capital City Kiwanis Club and the Baton Rouge Section of the Louisiana Engineering Society, chairman of the local Tuberculosis Assn., past grand councilor of the Grand Jurisdiction of United Commercial Travelers and was a member of the Salvation Army Board.



Mamie B. Voyles



Franklyn G. Hornsby



Otis G. Gill

Survivors include his wife, Beatrice; two sons, Robert G. Hornsby and John P. Hornsby; and a daughter, Carolyn Faust, all of Baton Rouge.

Otis G. Gill, 46, division substation operator in Port Arthur, died in a one-car accident near Junita, La., June 15.

Gill was the president of Local 2286 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, the union that represents the bargaining unit of Gulf States workers.

A native of Bush, La., Gill was a graduate of high school in Sugartown, La. He spent nearly three years in the U.S. Navy.

Gill joined Gulf States as an operator's helper in Lakeside Station, Port Arthur, in 1951. He moved to the distribution department as a substation operator class B station in 1953. He became a substation operator class A station in 1954 and a division substation operator in 1968.

He is survived by his wife, Billie G. Gill; a son, Michael G. Gill of Shreveport; a daughter, Melody A. LeBleu of Port Arthur; and four brothers, Hardy L. Gill and Jerry Gill, both of DeRidder, La., Billy E. Gill of Vidor and Ken Gill of Woodbridge, Va.

Paul A. LeJeune, 41, retired serviceman first class in Port Allen, died June 25 of a brain tumor.

LeJeune was a native of Lobdell, La., and a graduate of Port Allen High School. He served two years in the U.S. Army in the mid-1950s.

He joined Gulf States in 1957 as a helper in the Port Allen T&D line department. He became an apprentice in Baton Rouge in 1962 and transferred back to Port Allen five months later.

LeJeune progressed to lineman first class in 1966 and was named serviceman first class in 1970. He took early retirement March 1 of this year.

He is survived by a son, Paul R. LeJeune; a daughter, Sandra June LeJeune; and a sister, Joyce Suggs.



Paul A. LeJeune

Rate increase approved in Texas

An 8.9 per cent rate increase has been approved by nearly all Texas municipalities served by Gulf States.

The increase was placed into effect for all meter readings taken in July in unincorporated areas and in towns that took action on the increase.

All the new rates incorporate a base fuel cost of 7.9 mills (\$0.0079) per kilowatt-hour (kwhr) of usage. The old rates' fuel component was 2.25 mills. Any fuel charges greater or less than 7.9 mills will be added or subtracted from a person's bill.

The new residential rates encompass:

1. A new minimum charge of \$3.50 for up to 50 kwhr. The old rate minimum was \$1.25 for up to 22 kwhr. The next 50 kwhr will cost 4.4 cents apiece; the next 500 kwhr 3.2 cents apiece. Usage above 600 kwhr will be charged at 2.6

cents per kwhr in the summer and 2.1 cents per kwhr in the winter.

2. The water heating allowance has been discontinued for residential customers and for commercial customers with water heater capacities of less than 100 gallons.

3. The Company will no longer offer metal halide flood lights after the current supply runs out. A more efficient high-pressure sodium light will be the standard floodlight. Installation charges have also been set according to the type light fixture requested.

The average increase in revenue to the Company approved by the cities was 8.9 per cent — an amount recommended by consultants hired by the City of Beaumont and other towns.

Gulf States had requested a 15.9 per cent increase.

The percentage increase of a person's bill will vary according to that person's usage.

"The summer air conditioning customer will have the highest rate increase," said Norman Head, rates manager. "The low-use customer will have the smallest increase."

The Public Utilities Commission in Texas will begin to regulate rates in unincorporated areas Sept. 1.

The Company also has a rate increase petition before the Public Service Commission in Louisiana. Auditors from the Commission finished their work examining the Gulf States figures in the Main Office in July.

Hearings in the Louisiana rate request are expected to be held in Baton Rouge in September and in Lake Charles in October.

'Hoo-ah!' College Station signs 20-year GSU pact

The City of College Station, Tex., July 1 signed a 20-year contract with Gulf States for wholesale electrical service to the city.

Mayor Lorence Bravenec signed the document after the city's voters approved by a 7-1 margin two bond issues for \$5.7 million in improvements to the city-owned electrical distribution system.

College Station (pop. 34,800) is currently served by the municipal utility owned by nearby Bryan, Tex.

Texas A&M University in College Station supplies its own electricity and is not included in the city's system.

Under the terms of the contract, Gulf States will serve 20mW to College Station by April, 1977. The full load of 54mW will be transferred from Bryan to Gulf States no later than Jan. 1, 1979.

Funds from the city's bond issues will be used to construct a substation and a 138kV transmission line ring around the

city. Gulf States will upgrade to 128kV the existing 69kV transmission line from Navasota and will build a new 138kV line to College Station from Madisonville. As the city's load increases, a third new line is expected to be built from Huntsville to College Station.

"College Station told us they wanted to buy their electricity from a large, interconnected company that could purchase fuel efficiently on the world market to provide a certain supply of electricity," Wayne Sullins, director of industrial development, said.

"Our current supplier is having problems supplying us," Mayor Bravenec said. "Now we have someone who can and is willing to handle our growth for the next 20 years."

Instrumental in negotiating the contract for Gulf States were Vic Norvell, superintendent of sales for the Western Division, and Dick Landry, industrial engineer.

Mike Ross wins business news writing award

Plain Talks Editor Mike Ross received an Award of Commendation in news writing at the 5W's Awards Banquet in Houston June 14.

The winning article was entitled "Design Weakness Found in 500kV Steel Towers" — a story about engineering tests that showed the transmission towers could not withstand strong winds at 45-degree angles to the towers. The story appeared on page 24 of the Feb.-March, 1976, issue of *Plain Talks*.

The Award of Commendation — a third-place prize — was one of 48 awards given out of 200 entries submitted by 47 business communicators in the Houston area.

The contest was sponsored by the Houston Chapter of the International Association of Business Communicators (IABC). Entries were judged by the Southern California Chapter of IABC.

Willow Glen pollution facilities financed

Gulf States has arranged financing for nearly \$25 million worth of pollution control facilities at Willow Glen Station through the sale of tax-exempt bonds issued by the Parish of Iberville, La.

Louisiana law allows governmental bodies to issue tax-exempt bonds for both pollution control facilities and industrial development. Utilities, however, are limited to a \$1 million limit in the industrial development category. The current issue consists of \$24 million in pollution control revenue bonds and \$1 million in industrial development revenue bonds.

In 1974 the Company financed \$20 million worth of tax-exempt pollution control facilities at Nelson Station through the issuance of pollution control revenue bonds by the Industrial Development Board of the Parish of Calcasieu, Inc.

The Iberville bonds were issued in \$5,000 denominations. They were priced at 7 per cent on June 25. After commissions and other charges were paid by Gulf States, the cost of the money to the Company was computed to be 7.15 per cent — about two percentage points lower than if the financing had been by comparable first mortgage bonds.

The bonds obligate Gulf States to \$1.75 million in annual interest payments — about \$500,000 less per year than for comparable first mortgage bonds. Interest received by the bondholders is exempt from state and Federal taxes, hence a

lower interest rate is possible.

The sale was to have been closed on July 27, at which time American Bank & Trust of Baton Rouge, acting as trustee, would receive \$25 million from the sale of the bonds. Gulf States is reimbursed as facilities are completed. Any proceeds of the sale not yet claimed by the Company are invested by the trustee at the direction of Gulf States.

"American Bank & Trust did a super job as trustee," said Bill Cropper, senior

financial analyst. "They purchased \$4 million of the bonds. Without their support, we wouldn't have gotten as good an interest rate."

The Willow Glen projects include pollution control facilities at Units 1, 2, 3 and 4 and portions of the tall stack being built to serve Units 3 and 4. The stack is considered a pollution dispersal item rather than a pollution control facility, so it is financed in part by the industrial development bonds.

Refund cuts into earnings

The earnings of Gulf States for the years 1973, 1974 and 1975 have been restated downward after nearly \$8.5 million was refunded to the Sam Rayburn Electric Cooperative.

The action was the result of the Supreme Court's refusal to review an appeals court ruling ordering the refund of certain wholesale rate increases authorized by the Federal Power Commission (FPC).

The FPC is reviewing the possibility of a much smaller refund to the Mid-South Electric Cooperative. The refund was calculated and charged to each year's earnings. The refunds and accrued interest lowered those earnings by \$1,734,000 (\$.06 per share) in 1975; \$1,885,000 (\$.08 per share) in 1974; and \$423,000 (\$.02 per share) in 1973. A refund cover-

ing the first half of 1976 will also lower this year's earnings.

The restated earnings for 1973, 1974 and 1975 are \$1.56, \$1.61 and \$1.68 per share, respectively.

The matter was a result of a rate increase to Sam Rayburn, Mid-South and other wholesale customers put into effect in mid-1973. The increase was taken to court by the two co-ops, who contended their contracts stipulated a fixed rate and that the rate increase was in violation of their agreements.

An appeals court on July 11, 1975, ruled in favor of Sam Rayburn and returned the Mid-South case to the FPC for further hearings. On June 1, 1976, the Supreme Court refused to review the Company's appeal of the appeals court decision.

Students told to adapt to high energy prices

*by Mildred Tribble
Director-Consumer Service*

Forty-three high school students and teachers from the Gulf States Texas divisions attended the 16th Texas Nuclear Science Symposium in Austin, June 1-4.

The gathering was sponsored by the Texas Atomic Energy Research Foundation (TAERF) and the University of Texas at Austin. It included lectures and tours of the campus laboratories.

Dr. H. H. Woodson, director of the University's Center for Energy Studies, reminded the audience that our society was built on energy so inexpensive its costs were considered negligible. He predicted we will adapt, however, to higher electricity prices by conservation and fuel

substitution.

Increased use of battery-powered vehicles, public transportation and the heat pump were conservation examples, Dr. Woodson said. Abundant energy sources like coal and nuclear should be exploited, he said. He added that nuclear waste poses not a technical problem, only an institutional one.

In discussing "Nuclear Reaction Safety," Dr. Knox M. Broom Jr., manager of Power Services for Brown and Root, Inc., stated that we know more about the effects of radiation on man and his environment than we do on any other facet of life.

Dr. E. Linn Draper, director of the Nuclear Reactor Laboratory at the University, discussed "Nuclear Power React-

ors"; and Dr. W. E. Drummond, director of the Fusion Research Center described the background and status of fusion studies being conducted on the campus.

Other guests were Dr. Richard E. Wainerdi, Texas A&M University, who spoke on "The Potentials of Atomic Energy"; Drs. John M. Rust and J. R. Maxfield Jr., both medical doctors, who discussed the effect of radiation on the environment and the use of nuclear energy in medicine, respectively; and Dr. R. H. Bing, who presented "Mathematics, the Language of Science."

M. W. Zengerle, a research biologist for Texas Electric Service Company, told the results of studies which analyzed "The Environmental Effects of Power Generation."

DuBose, McMorris top fishermen

Gulf States fishermen outlasted stormy weather June 19 to compete in the annual Live Wire Club Bass Tournament at Six-Mile Marina at Toledo Bend Reservoir.

Kent DuBose, construction accountant at Sabine Station, and Walter McMorris, district superintendent in Zachary, won first place with a stringer of 10 pounds 10 ounces.

Charles Hackney and Tom Crowe, both of power plant engineering and design, placed second with 7 pounds, 4 ounces of fish. Jim Frankson and Horace Brown, both of plant accounting, were third with 7 pounds of bass. Coming in fourth were Chip Knowles, Beaumont T&D engineering, and Chris Menzel of system production, with a 5-pound, 10-ounce stringer.

Knowles landed the big bass of the day — 3 pounds, 6 ounces. David Mayo of Neches Station won the water cooler door prize. The bottle of bourbon was won by A. C. Morrison of the Beaumont T&D line department.

DuBose reported thundershowers doused the area during the morning of the contest. Some fishermen braved the rain and lightning to get the early start. DuBose and McMorris won despite sitting out the first few hours until the inclement weather passed.

THRIFT PLAN

Purchases of Gulf States Utilities common and preferred stock made by First Security National Bank of Beaumont, the trustee, during June, 1976, covering employee deductions and Company contributions through May, 1976, were as follows:

COMMON STOCK

Shares	Date	Price	Total	Commission
	Purchased	per share	cost	
1,070	9 June	12	\$12,840.00	0
1,500	8 June	11-7/8	17,962.50	\$150.00
300	8 June	11-7/8	3,592.50	30.00
3,200	9 June	11-7/8	38,320.00	320.00
2,200	11 June	11-7/8	26,455.00	330.00
18	11 June	12	218.70	2.70

Total: 8,288 shares bought at an average price of \$11.99188 per share.

PREFERRED STOCK

20	11 June	51-1/2	1,053.80	23.80
4	11 June	51-3/4	211.76	4.76

Total: 24 shares bought at an average price of \$52.73167 per share.

SAVINGS

The trustee deposited \$92,493.94 with the savings department of First Security National Bank of Beaumont.

Mullin re-elected

Gene Mullin, Sulphur district superintendent, was re-elected president of the Sulphur Industrial Development Board in March.

The board was created by the Sulphur City Council in 1974 to develop an industrial park site on 48 acres of land east of downtown. The board has secured local, state and Federal funds to clear the site, serve it with a railroad spur and construct a building on the property, Mullin said.

The board hopes to attract several small industrial firms to locate on the site, thereby creating more job opportunities for area citizens.

Mullin also became president of the Sulphur Rotary Club June 30.

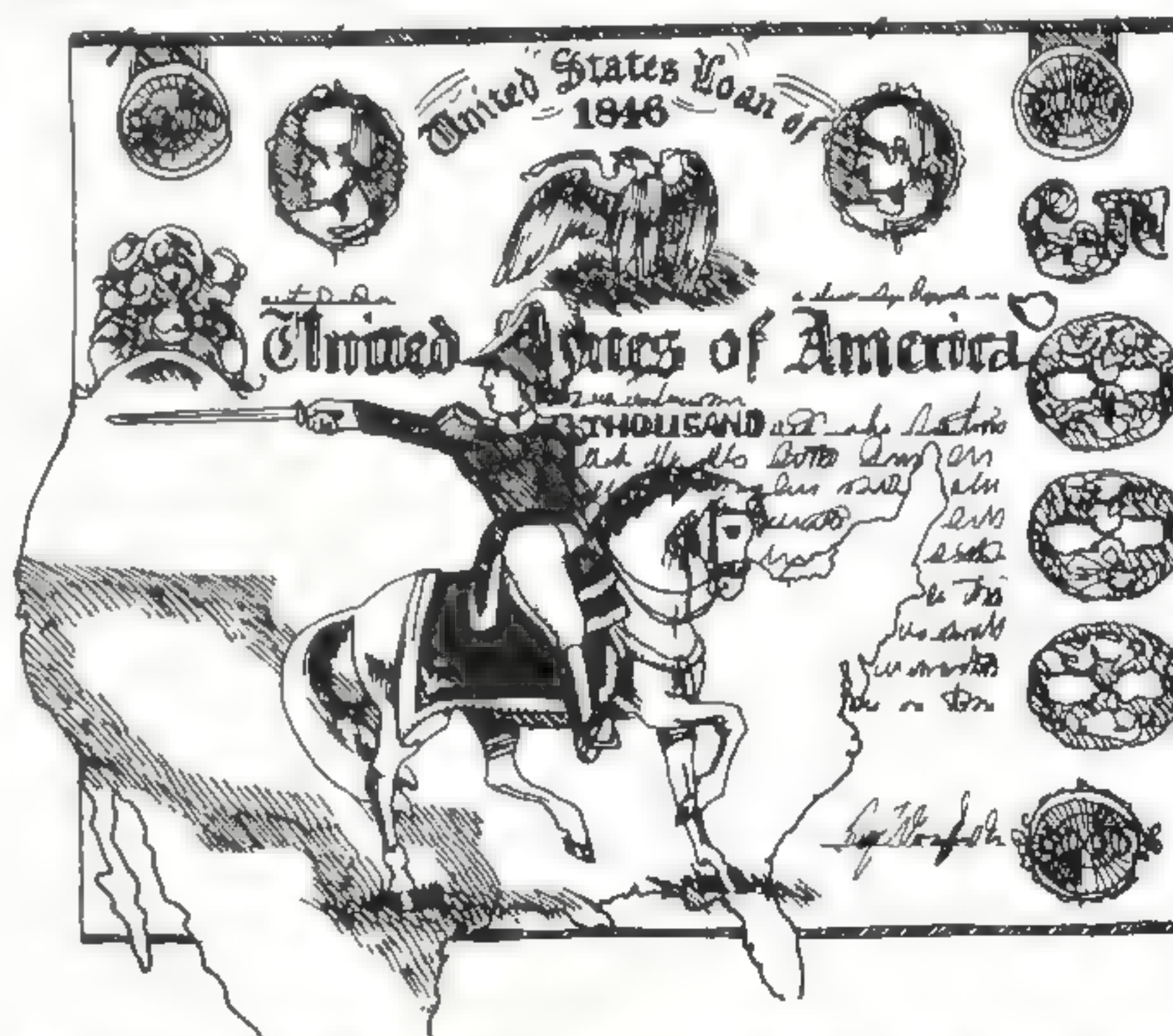
Three Gulf Staters win posts

Three Gulf States employees have been elected to professional and civic club positions recently.

Robert J. Peters, section head in engineering design, was elected president of the Sabine Chapter of the American Society of Certified Engineering Technicians.

Sam A. McKenzie, section head at Louisiana Station, has been elected president of the Greater Baton Rouge Industrial Management Club, an affiliate of the Young Men's Christian Association.

Bobby J. Gillentine, senior engineering assistant in engineering services, has been elected Deputy District Governor of the Lions Club for District 2-S1. Gillentine is secretary of the Evadale Lions Club.



They saved the Southwest for you

Wanting independence, Texas became a republic. The next step was statehood. So America issued a five-percent stock to help pay for the annexation of Texas, California, Nevada, Utah, Western Colorado, Arizona and New Mexico. Americans still help their country grow by buying U.S. Savings Bonds through the Payroll Savings Plan. Help your country and help yourself to safe, dependable savings. Take stock in America. You just can't buy a better country. Call LaMelle Triplett (extension 3150) for details.

A cool hoist

That strange structure that was constructed on a parking lot near the Main Office was a new cooling tower for the building's air conditioning system.

The 30-ton tower cost \$66,000 to build and was hoisted into place atop the garage by a crane (right) Saturday afternoon, July 3.

"The normal lifetime of a cooling tower is 12 to 14 years," said Gerald Dean, building and grounds maintenance supervisor in Beaumont. "The old one lasted 19 years — which is excellent. But it was about to fall down." The old unit had a capacity of 800 tons of air conditioning. The new tower is rated at 950 tons. "The next tower size was too small," Dean said. "And the extra capacity will allow us to add more air conditioning to the system."

Natkin Service Co. was the prime contractor for the three-week construction project. The old unit was hauled to the Beaumont City Dump after the motors were salvaged.

The Main Office was without air conditioning only from Friday afternoon, when the old unit was disconnected for demolition, to Sunday afternoon, when the new tower was hooked into the air conditioning system. The cooling tower is used to cool condensed water, which has been heated by the vaporized freon used in cooling the building's air.

The computer rooms and the system-operations center were cooled over the weekend by auxiliary units.

The entire project went off without a hitch — which was fine with Dean. "I'm glad it's over," he said. "If a cable had broken when the new tower was up in the air, it might have been a month or more before we could have gotten parts to rebuild it. Without air conditioning, the temperature inside the building could have easily gotten over 100 degrees."



photo by Jerry Lynas, Beaumont Enterprise

PEOPLE ON THE MOVE



Mel Cole

A reorganization of the system engineering department has resulted in the promotions of **Mel Cole**, **Les Calder** and **Tom Reeves**.

The moves are the result of dividing up the groups that reported to Al Naylor, now administrative assistant to Joe Bondurant, vice president of technical services; and Alfred Melancon, standards supervisor, who retired June 1.

Cole, formerly director of distribution engineering, is now director of engineering standards and applications. He has assumed responsibility for the applications group headed by Ken Gerstenberg, who formerly reported to Melancon.

Calder, formerly estimating engineer, is now director of engineering services. In addition to the estimating functions Calder formerly oversaw, he adds responsibility over Ray Audilet's scheduling group, formerly under Naylor; and Ricks Bryant's equipment section, formerly under Melancon.

Reeves, formerly engineer in transmission planning, is now design engineer in the design engineering-construction department. He will coordinate the planning, design and construction of the planned interconnection between the Company and Cajun Electric Power Cooperative (CEPCO) in New Roads, La. CEPCO is building two coal-fired units at New Roads and is negotiating a contract with Gulf States for the transmission of CEPCO's electricity over Gulf States lines. The project involves the construction of a 500kV line and switching station.



Les Calder

Completing the reorganization, Frank Hazmark's standards group, formerly under Melancon, has been assigned to Lewis Guthrie, director of engineering design.

Cole is a native of DeRidder, La., and was graduated from Louisiana State University in 1952 with a degree in civil engineering.

He served more than four years in the U.S. Air Force after college and is currently a lieutenant colonel in the Air Force Reserve.

Cole joined Gulf States in Jan., 1957, and was assigned to system engineering six months later. He served in engineering positions in construction budget, T&D engineering and system engineering-design, all in Beaumont, before being named Beaumont division engineer in 1967.

He was named operating supervisor in Beaumont in 1971 and director of distribution engineering in 1974.

Cole received a masters degree in engineering science from Lamar University in 1965 and a doctor of engineering degree — the first doctoral degree awarded by Lamar — in 1973. (See *Plain Talks*, Jan-Feb., 1974). He is a registered professional engineer in Texas and in Louisiana and a member of the West Beaumont Rotary Club, Cardinal Club and the Young Men's Business League. Cole is married to the former Betty Burns of Baton Rouge. The couple has three children.

Calder is a native of Jacksonville, Tex., and a 1958 electrical engineering graduate of Oklahoma University. He joined Gulf



Tom Reeves

States as an engineer in August, 1958, and was assigned in September to the Beaumont T&D engineering department. He then served two years in the U.S. Army before returning to the Company. He was assigned to the Port Arthur T&D engineering department in 1961 and five years later moved back to Beaumont in system engineering-standards-applications. He moved to the planning section in 1970 and was named estimating engineer in 1973.

Calder is a major in the U.S. Army Reserve and an honor graduate of the Command & General Staff College. He is a registered professional engineer and an elder of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Beaumont. He has also been active as a coach and umpire in Little League baseball and as a past council member of a Boy Scout troop. Calder is married to the former Arvella Constien of Hinton, Okla. The couple has three children.

Reeves is a native of Liberty, Miss., and a 1963 electrical engineering graduate of Louisiana State University.

He joined the Company as an unassigned engineer in Beaumont after graduation, but served two years in the Army before being reinstated in the Beaumont T&D engineering department.

He has since served as engineer in design engineering-construction, standards design and planning. He is a director of Stewart's Halfway House and a member of the Beaumont Council for Retarded Children. Reeves is married to the former Lynda Chisum of Sour Lake, Texas. The couple has three children.

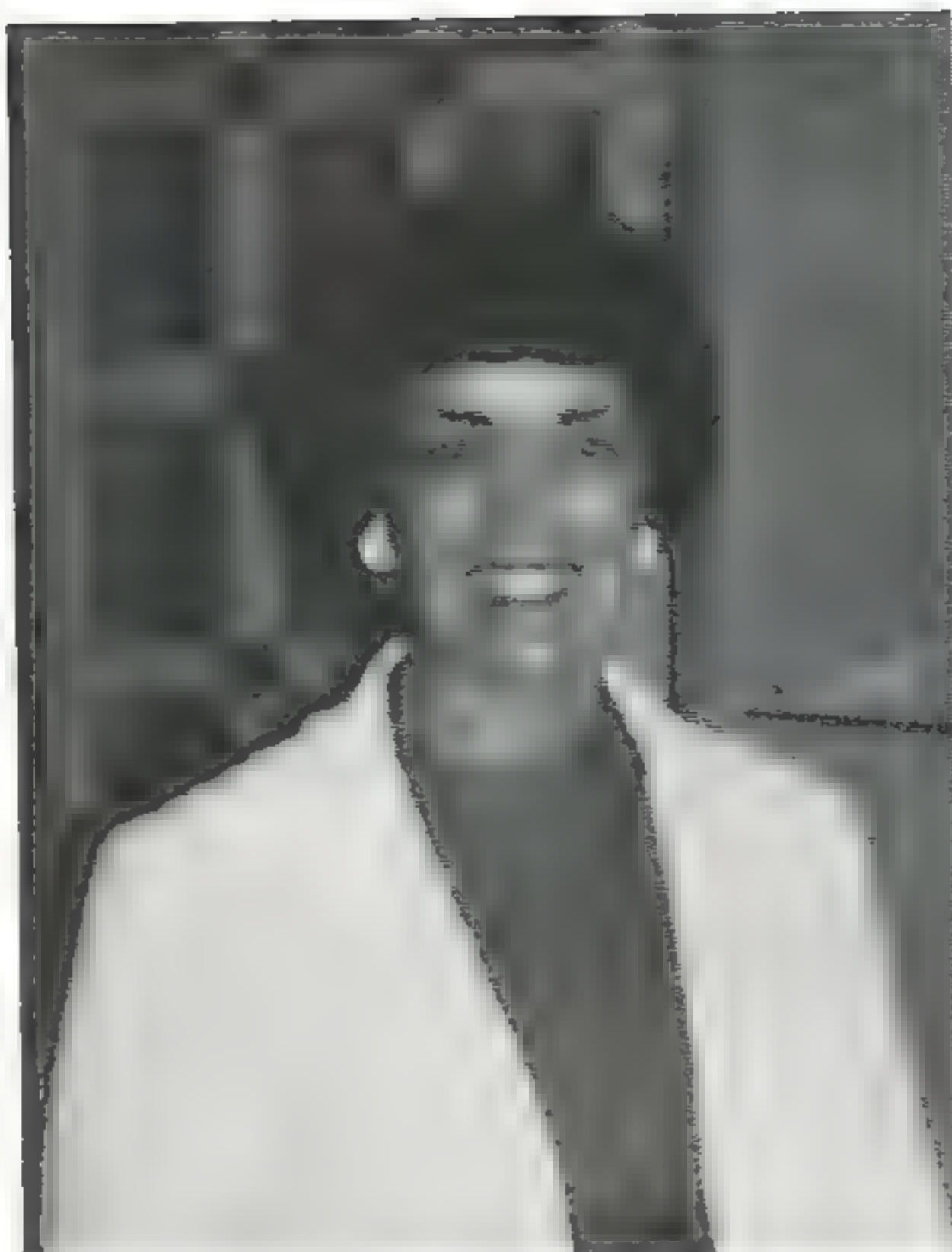


Calvin Jaetzold

Two Western Division employees have been transferred to the personnel department in Beaumont and promoted.

Calvin Jaetzold, formerly area development coordinator, has been promoted to personnel representative. "Initially, he will take what Ken Jumel handled, filling the void we have in the benefits area," said Ted Meinscher, director of industrial relations. Jaetzold will answer queries employees and annuitants have with their Company benefits and pensions.

Rose Grisham, formerly executive secretary to the Western Division manager, has been promoted to labor relations as-



Rose Grisham

sistant. She will be the ultimate replacement for Mildred Killbuck, who is taking early retirement effective in November.

Bobbie Burke, formerly senior stenographer in Conroe T&D, has been promoted to executive stenographer to fill Grisham's vacancy in Conroe.

Jaetzold is a native of Port Arthur and a 1959 graduate of Port Neches-Groves High School. This year he received a business administration degree from the University of Houston with a major in organizational behavior and management.

He joined the Company in 1963 as a junior residential sales representative in



Bobbie Burke

Port Arthur. He moved to the Mid-County office in 1964 and progressed the next year to residential sales representative (without the junior). He transferred to Port Arthur in 1967 and to Conroe a year later. Two months later he became a senior residential sales representative.

Jaetzold was named area development coordinator in Conroe in 1972.

Jaetzold was active in many Conroe-area organizations, including the Conroe Noon Lions Club, Conroe Tigers Touchdown Club, Y.M.C.A., United Fund, Cancer Crusade and the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce Embassy Club.

He is married to the former Patricia Ann Terry of Port Arthur. The couple has three children.

Ms. Grisham is a native of Arlington, Tex., and a graduate of Conroe High School. She has attended the University of Houston.

She joined the Company in 1969 as executive stenographer to the Western Division manager in Conroe. She was promoted to executive secretary in 1972.

Ms. Grisham is the mother of two teenaged children.

Mrs. Burke is a native of Navasota, Tex., where she was graduated from high school. She joined Gulf States in 1963 as a clerk in the meter shop, then located in Navasota. She moved to Conroe when the Division offices were relocated there in 1971 and that year was named T&D stenographer.

Mrs. Burke is married to Cyril Burke of College Station. The couple resides in Houston and has one two-year-old daughter, Amy Lynn.



Thomas Wier

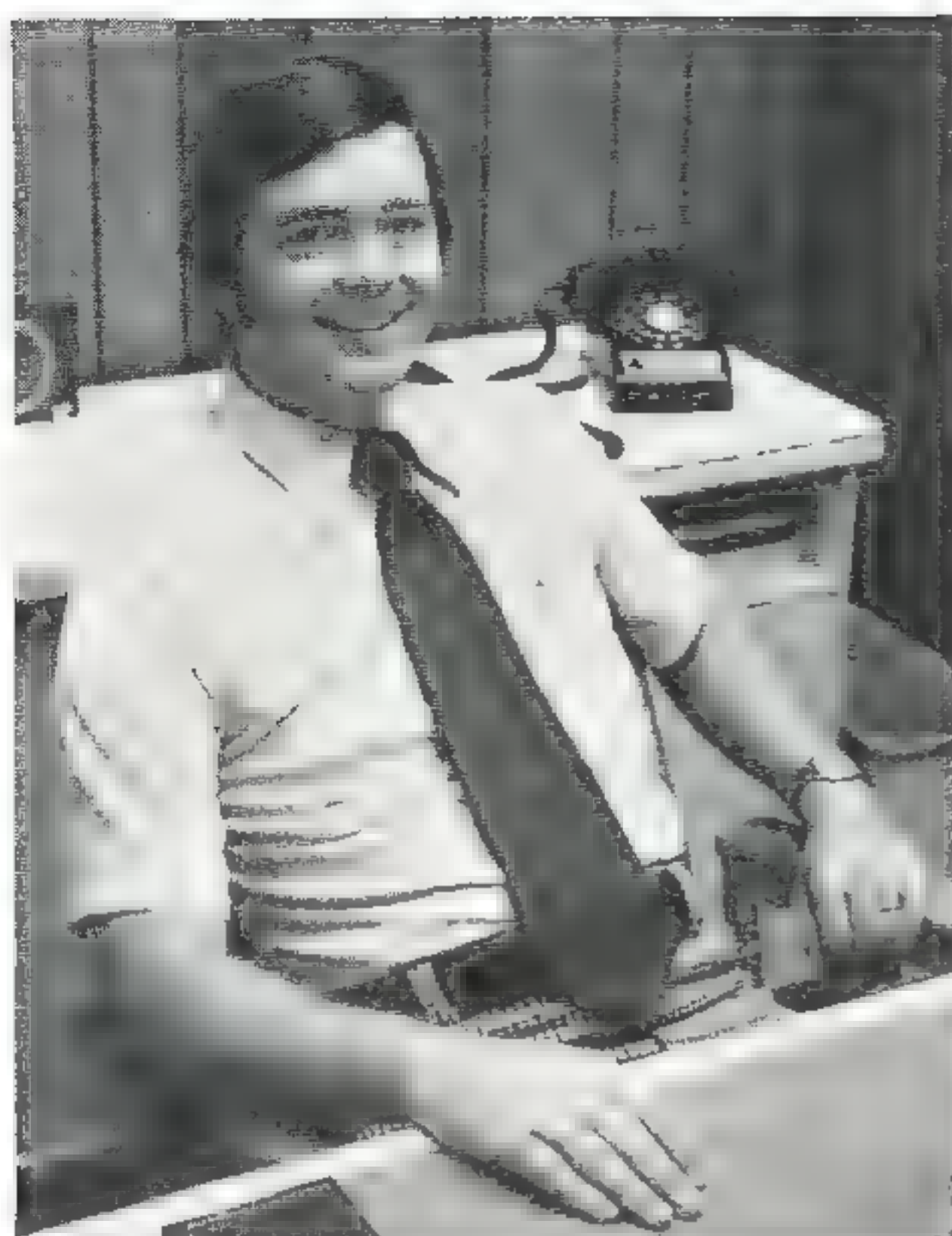
Thomas Wier, formerly equipment operator at Sabine Station, has been promoted to control operations foreman at the Bridge City power plant.

A native of Beaumont, Wier was graduated from South Park High School there in 1964 and spent four years in the U.S. Navy.

He joined Gulf States in 1968 as an operator's helper at Sabine Station and was named equipment operator in 1970.

He is a charter member of the German Shepherd Dog Club of Beaumont and a avid scuba diver and fisherman.

He is married to the former Lynn Oates of Jasper. The couple has one son.



Michael Bibby

Michael Bibby, formerly division engineer in Lake Charles, has been transferred to Port Arthur and promoted to marketing supervisor.

Delbert Zimmerly has been promoted to replace Bibby, and **Carl Heubach** has transferred from the production department to replace Zimmerly as engineer in transmission planning.

Bibby will head up the marketing department in Port Arthur, including the consumer service department and industrial accounts.

Zimmerly will supervise the Lake Charles T&D engineering staff and coordinate engineering projects in the division.

Heubach will perform load flow studies to determine what additions or changes are needed in the Company's transmission system.

Bibby is a native of Jackson, Miss., but was raised in Little Rock, Ark. He served four years in the U.S. Air Force, then attended the University of Arkansas, graduating in 1970 with an electrical engineering degree.

Bibby joined Gulf States as an engineer in the Beaumont T&D engineering department after his graduation. Sixteen months later he was named engineer in the rates department and in 1973 was promoted to division engineer in Lake Charles.

He is married to the former Dorothy Davis of Texarkana, Ark. The couple has two young children.

Zimmerly is a native of Hope, Ark., and a 1969 electrical engineering graduate of the University of Arkansas.

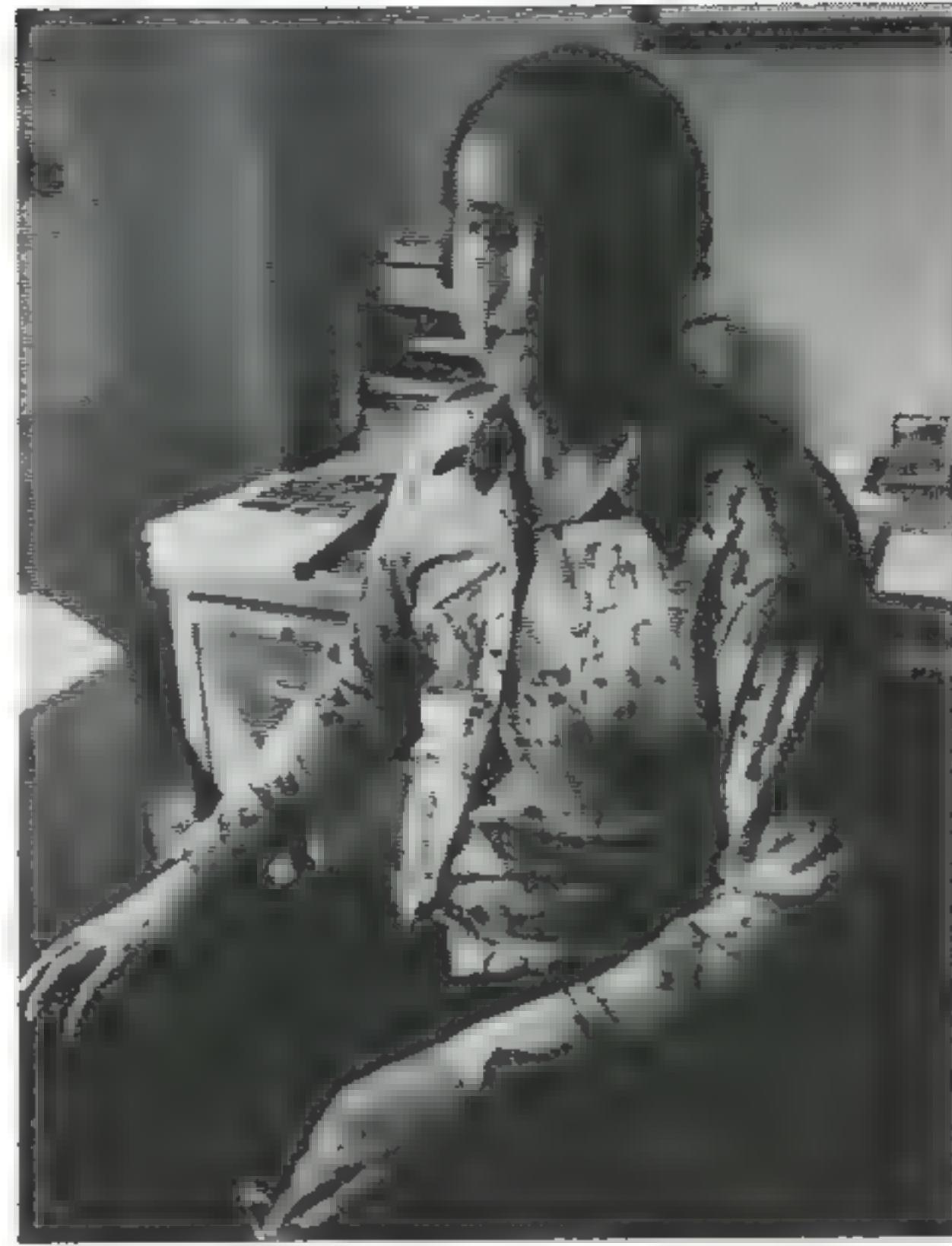


Delbert Zimmerly

He joined Gulf States as an engineer at Beaumont T&D engineering department after his graduation, but was drafted soon thereafter.

He served two years in the U.S. Army before returning to the Beaumont Service Center.

Zimmerly was transferred to transmission planning in 1974.



Carl Heubach

Zimmerly is working on a master of business administration degree at Lamar University.

He was also superintendent of Sunday schools and member of the financial committee of Friendship Baptist Church in Beaumont.

He is married to the former Alayne Evans of Warren, Ark.

Harrison Carlin, formerly utility foreman in Lafayette, has been promoted to service foreman, replacing Kelly Powell, who retired June 1.

Carlin is a native of Abbeville, La., where he was graduated from high school in 1952. After serving in the U.S. Navy during the Korean Conflict, Carlin joined Gulf States as a helper in the Lafayette T&D line department.

He progressed to lineman first class in 1960, served a year as serviceman first class in 1963-4, and transferred back to the line department in 1964. He became utility foreman in 1970.

Carlin has completed electrical engineering and modern management correspondence courses offered by the International Correspondence School (ICS) through the Company. He is also a member of the Fatima Knights of Columbus.

Carlin is married to the former Joyce Hebert of Erath, La. The couple has two children: Tina States of Scott, La., and Michael Carlin, a junior at Acadiana High School.



Harrison Carlin



Bill Humphries

The promotions of **Bill Humphries**, **Aubrey Lee** and **Cart Varnado** in the Baton Rouge gas department have been announced.

Humphries, formerly meter and regulator foreman, is now service supervisor. Lee, formerly gas foreman, is now general gas foreman. Varnado, formerly gas foreman, is now meter and regulator foreman.

The changes are a result of some reorganization following the retirement earlier this year of W. P. Gautreaux. Humphries holds the same title as Gautreaux but has authority over both the service and meter departments. As general foreman, Lee will coordinate all new gas construction and supervise the six gas foremen. Varnado takes over the



Aubrey Lee

meter and regulator shop vacated by Humphries. Varnado insures the proper gas pressure and odorization requirements are met.

Humphries is a native of Grayson, La.

He joined the gas department in 1936 as a helper. He rose to meter repairman in 1939, to meterman first class in 1947 and to gas foreman in 1960. Humphries was named meter and regulator foreman in 1965.

He is the father of two children.

Lee is a native of Clinton, La., and a graduate of Greensburg (La.) High School. He served nearly two years in the U.S. Army before joining Gulf States in 1958 as a helper in the Baton Rouge gas department.

He moved up to apprentice in 1959, to



Cart Varnado

meterman first class in 1963 and to gas foreman in 1970. Lee has been active as a coach in Little League softball, baseball and football until this year. He is married to the former Vidalia Westmoreland of Jackson, La. The couple has three children.

Varnado is a native of Kentwood, La., where he graduated from high school. He served two years in the U.S. Army and joined Gulf States in 1960, 18 months after his discharge. He began as a helper in the Baton Rouge gas department, progressed to apprentice in 1961, to meterman first class in 1965 and to gas foreman in 1974.

He is married to the former Reona Beech of Hazlehurst, Miss. The couple has one daughter.

Generation planning team formed

Three engineers have been transferred to the technical services department to devise a long-range generation plan. All three will report to Al Naylor, executive assistant to Joe Bondurant, vice president of technical services.

Ray Broussard and **Ben Reiser** transferred from the production department, while **Dave Smythia** moved from the Beaumont T&D engineering department.

Lewis D. "Chip" Knowles, formerly engineer in the system production department, has transferred to the Beaumont

T&D department to replace Smythia.

"Smythia will work out new computer programs and planning techniques concerned with the economics of future types of generation," Naylor said.

"Reiser will work on planning the oil and coal conversions as well as investigating alternate sources of fuel. He will study problems which may arise from using each different fuel and will recommend possible solutions.

"Broussard will work with fuels planning — how much of what fuel we would

need — and the logistics of getting the fuel to the plant or the plant to the fuel."

"All three engineers will have to work hand-in-hand to devise a viable generation plan," Naylor concluded.

The Company's contract with Exxon for natural gas to fuel the Gulf States Texas generators expires in 1985.

Boilers at Neches, Sabine and Lewis Creek Stations must be converted to burn oil, coal, lignite or some other fuel or be scrapped. Naylor is charged with developing an orderly plan for such a conversion.



Stephen Blair

Two new foremen have been named at Willow Glen Station.

Marvin Vincent, formerly master repairman, has been promoted to mechanical maintenance foreman; and **Stephen Blair**, formerly switchboard operator at Louisiana Station, has been promoted to control operations foreman.

Vincent is a native of Denham Springs, La., and a graduate of Istrouma High School in Baton Rouge. He was drafted into the U.S. Army for two years and joined Gulf States in 1953 as a mechanic's helper at Louisiana Station. He progressed to mechanic first class in 1958 and transferred to Willow Glen in 1969. Vincent was promoted to master repairman in 1974.

He is a member of the administrative board of Blackwater Methodist Church in Baker, La.



Marvin Vincent

Vincent is married to the former Clydean Bouquet of Plaquemine. The couple has five children, ranging in age from 22 to 9, and one granddaughter.

Blair was born in Jefferson County, Ala., and was graduated from Central High School in Baton Rouge. He spent four years in the U.S. Marine Corps and joined Gulf States in 1963 as an operator's helper at Louisiana Station. He progressed through auxiliary operator, turbine operator, turbine water plant operator and second fireman and was named turbine engineer in 1970. He became a switchboard operator in January, 1976.

Blair is married to the former Edith Gail Smith of Oak Grove, La. The couple has two sons and a daughter.

G. Kent Dubose, formerly internal auditor, has been transferred to the power plant construction department and promoted to construction accountant for Unit 5 at Sabine Station.

Dubose will work on site at Sabine as a continual auditor for the project. General contractor for construction is Mid-Valley, Inc.

Dubose is a native of Jasper, Tex., and a 1973 graduate of Lamar University with a degree in accounting. He joined Gulf States in Sept., 1973, as an administrative accountant in accounting services. Six weeks later he was named an internal auditor.

Dubose is a member of Delta Sigma Pi, a business administration fraternity.

He is married to the former Gayla Geneva Powell of Kirbyville, Tex.

Joe Domino, formerly engineer in the system production department, has been



Joe Domino

promoted to systems engineer.

Domino will have responsibility for Eldridge Mathews' group, which maintains power plant computers, and will supervise a variety of technological innovations at the Company's power plants.

He is a native of New Orleans. He joined Gulf States in 1970 after graduation from Louisiana State University with a degree in electrical engineering. Domino earned a masters degree in engineering science from Lamar University in 1975. He has held engineer positions in system engineering planning, T&D engineering and system production.

He is a past president of the Beaumont Northwest Lions Club and is a lector at St. Anne's Catholic Church.

Domino is married to the former Linda Lombardo of Franklin, La. The couple has a young son, Frank Anthony.



Kent Dubose



"Hey Doris! Are you looking for my bowling ball or aren't you?"

Engineers added to River Bend project

Seven men have been added to the River Bend Project under construction near St. Francisville, La. The transfers and two other personnel changes reflect the increasing activity at River Bend as well as the decreasing need for engineers to staff the Blue Hills Project near Newton, Tex.

Tom Crowe, formerly Blue Hills project engineer, has been named River Bend project engineer, reporting to Jim Meitzen, senior project engineer for both nuclear projects.

Steve Williamson, formerly engineer in the production department; **Jim Wright**, formerly engineer in the nuclear licensing

section; and **Erwin Zoch**, formerly engineer in the technical services section, were all transferred to the River Bend Project section of the power plant engineering and design department. They will join Van Boudreaux, Nolan Walker, Don Hamilton, Bill Gregory and Bennie Hickman in reviewing the contractors' designs of various plant systems. The engineers look for ease of maintenance, high reliability and sufficient redundancy to insure plant availability. All eight engineers report to Crowe.

Hickman has also been transferred to the River Bend site and promoted to supervisor of site engineering. He will coordinate any practical design changes as their needs become evident.

Mark Walton, formerly chemist at Louisiana Station, has been transferred to the power plant engineering and design department as a nuclear staff assistant. Walton will be concerned with the water treatment systems at River Bend.

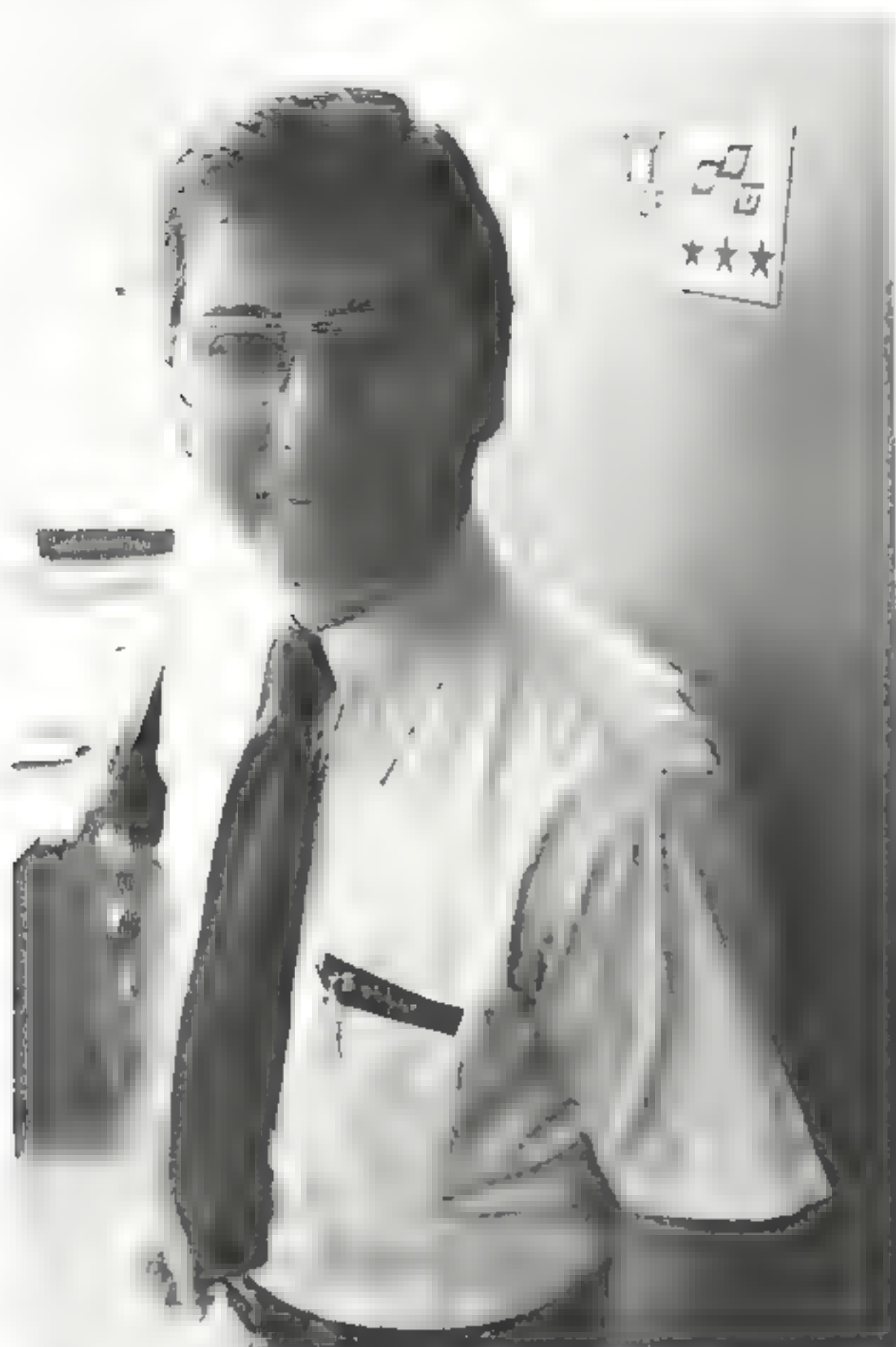
Replacing Walton at Louisiana Station is **Gary Pack**, a new employee and recent graduate of Louisiana State University with a masters degree in chemistry.

"This is a very major construction project," Crowe said. "It will nearly double the Company's fixed assets. It is very important that the design be as thorough as possible so the plant will be reliable."

Franz Tomlinson, formerly engineer in the Blue Hills project section, will replace Zoch in the technical services section. There he will work for Jim Champagne in the area of nuclear fuel management.

Jim Booker, formerly licensing engineer, also had a title change to director of nuclear licensing. Remaining on the Blue Hills project staff is Charles Hackney, though he will do some River Bend work, too. The Blue Hills site will be licensed, but engineering work has been halted, since the plant is not expected to be operational until at least 1989.

Joe Burton, formerly plant engineer at Louisiana Station, has been transferred to the River Bend site as an engineer in the power plant construction department. Burton will inspect the contractors' work to be sure it is being built according to specifications for the least amount of money. He will work out new construction methods, be sure equipment is used properly and work to maintain good labor productivity at the site.

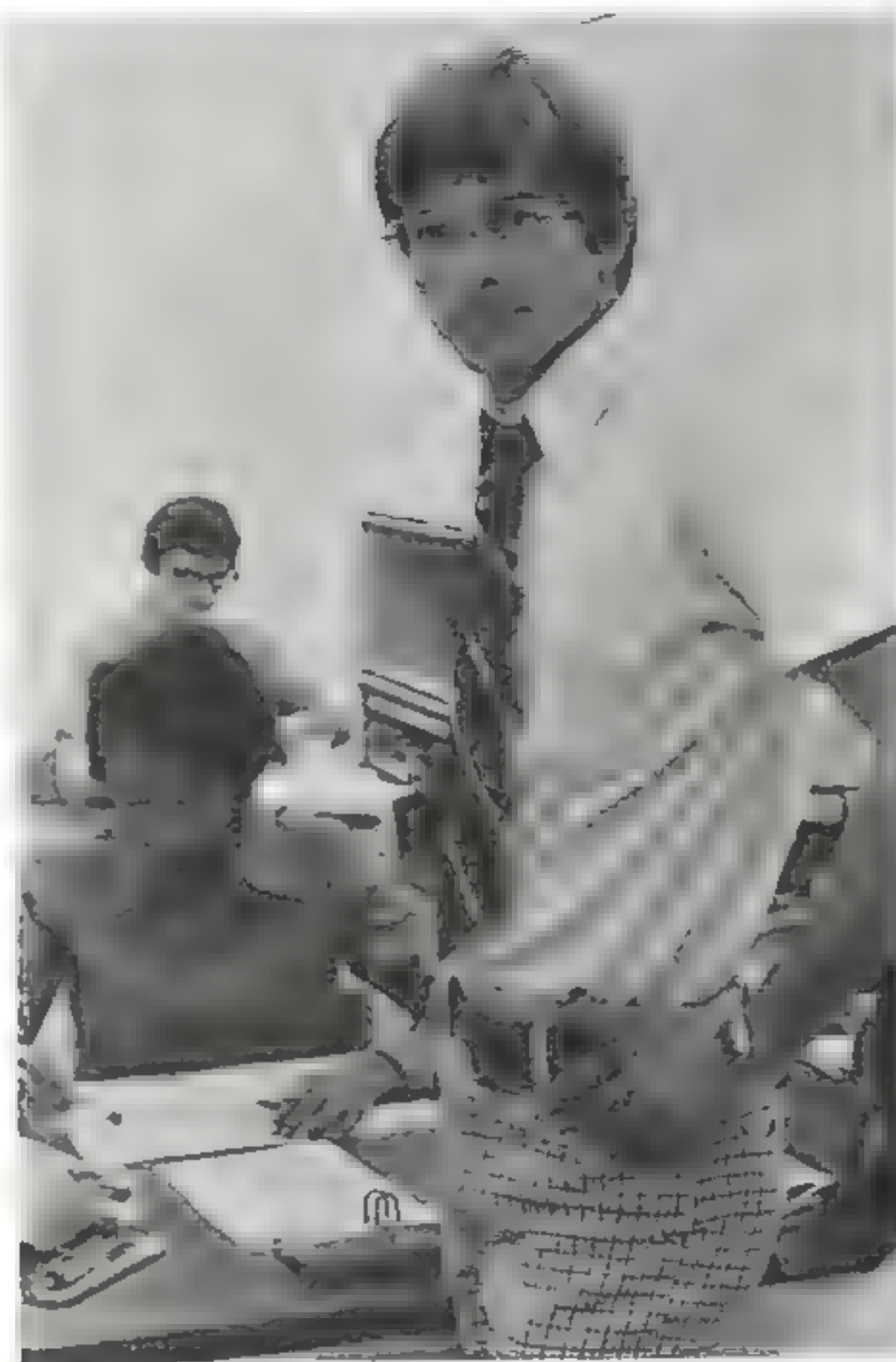


Gene Russell

Gene Russell, formerly senior engineering assistant at Neches Station, has been transferred to the personnel department and promoted to safety representative. Russell will replace the retired Andy Poulson as safety representative for the Company's power plants.

Russell is a native of Port Arthur. He is a graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School and is attending classes at Lamar University. He served three years in the U.S. Navy as a member of an underwater demolition team. Russell has spent 17 years working at Neches Station since he joined the Company in 1959 as an operator's helper. He became auxiliary operator in 1961, turbine operator in 1962, engineering assistant in 1967 and senior engineering assistant in 1968.

He is a member of the board of directors and past president of the Live Wires Club. He is married to the former Geraldine Bailey of Port Arthur. The couple has two children.



Gary Kramer

Gary Kramer, formerly administrative accountant assigned to Varibus Corp., has been promoted to senior administrative accountant in the system billing section. Kramer replaces Ervin Berger, who was transferred to general accounting.

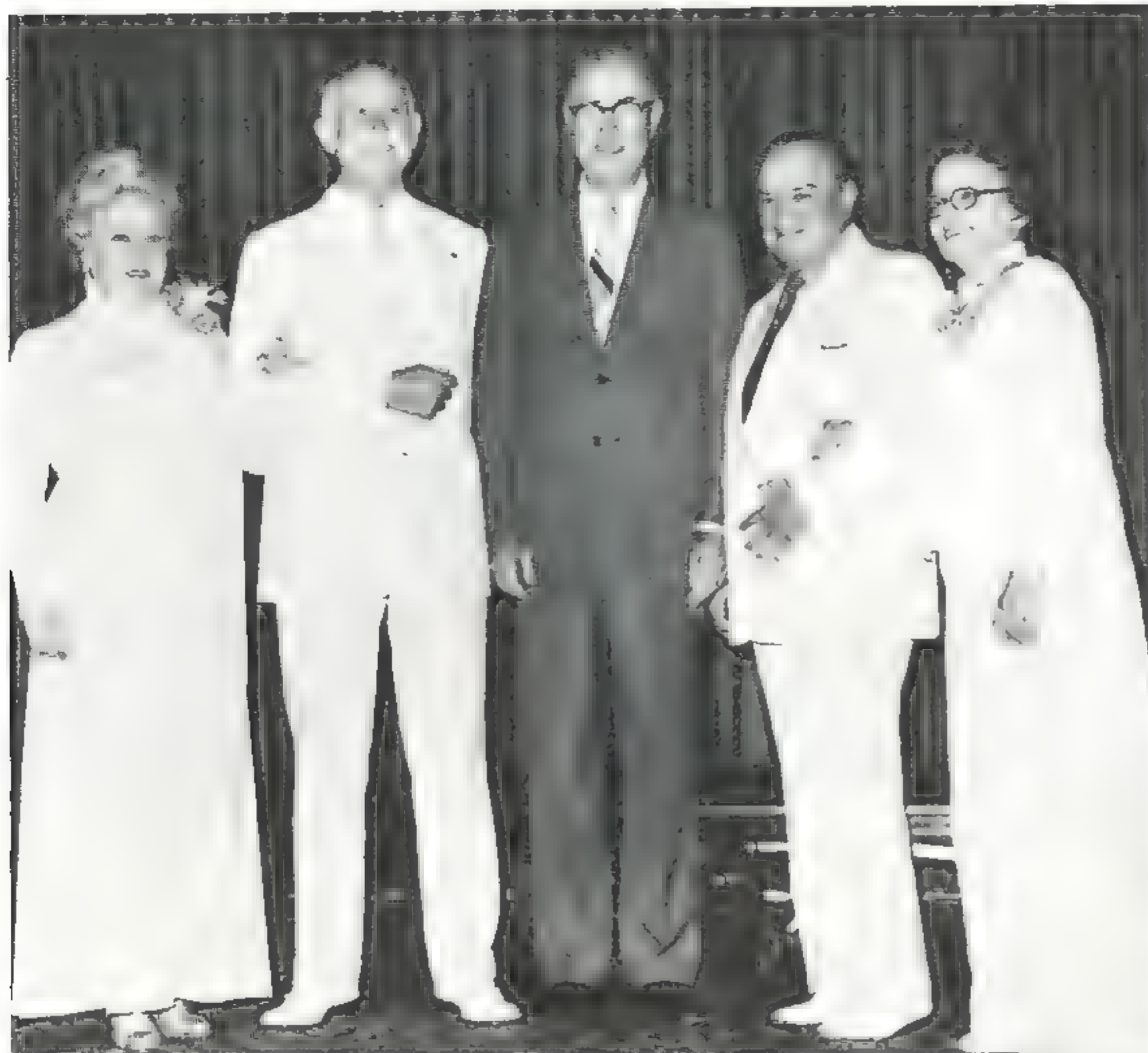
Kramer will supervise the billing of large power users and monitor billing problems across the system that could not be handled at the division level.

He is a native of Citronelle, Ala. Kramer served three years in the U.S. Army in the late 1960's before entering Lamar University. He graduated in 1973 with a business administration degree in accounting.

He joined Gulf States after graduation as an administrative accountant in system billing. Five months later he was transferred to accounts payable and in 1975 to Varibus.

Kramer is married to the former Janet Elizabeth Key of Hamshire, Tex. The couple has two children.

Service Awards Banquets



40 YEARS — Bea Watler, Cedric H. Watler, Chairman of the Board Floyd Smith, Sammie Bono and Dot Bono.



10 YEARS — Front row: Louis A. Chavis, Loretta Gilbert, Casey Richert and Chairman of the Board Floyd Smith. Back row: William E. Harrington and Louis R. Cooper.

Lake Charles



30 YEARS — Front row: Hubert Landry, Bernard Wiltz, Thomas Kelly, Eli Benoit, Paul Dugas and George Parton. Middle row: Oray Hernandez, Henry Buckalew, Emery Fruge, Houston LeBlue and Chairman of the Board Floyd Smith. Back row: Anderson Andrus, John Dodd, Herman Breau, Wilfred Broussard and Oscar Gann.



20 YEARS — Front row: Edward Barnes, Edward Cryer, Mark Kingham, Dennis Dugas, Lemuel Gravelle, Harrison Carlin, Joseph Faulk and Chairman of the Board Floyd Smith. Back row: John Bordelon, Hubert Broussard, Joseph Manena, Shirley Robinson and Berton Young.



40 YEARS — Chairman of the Board Floyd Smith and E. E. "Cotton" Kaltwasser.

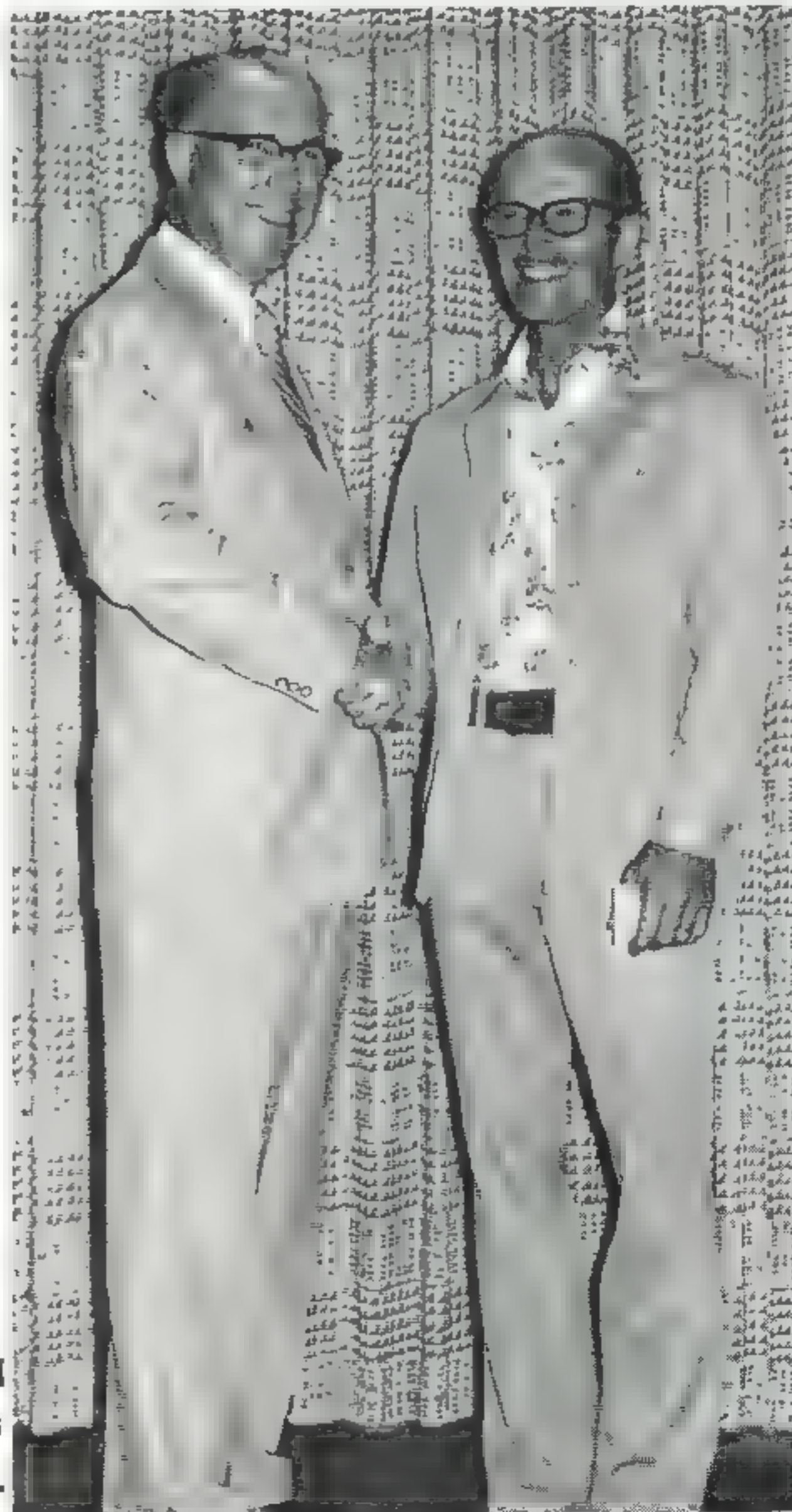


30 YEARS — Chairman of the Board Floyd Smith, Dan J. Goodman, E. D. Shead, John R. Flynt and Samuel D. Wells.

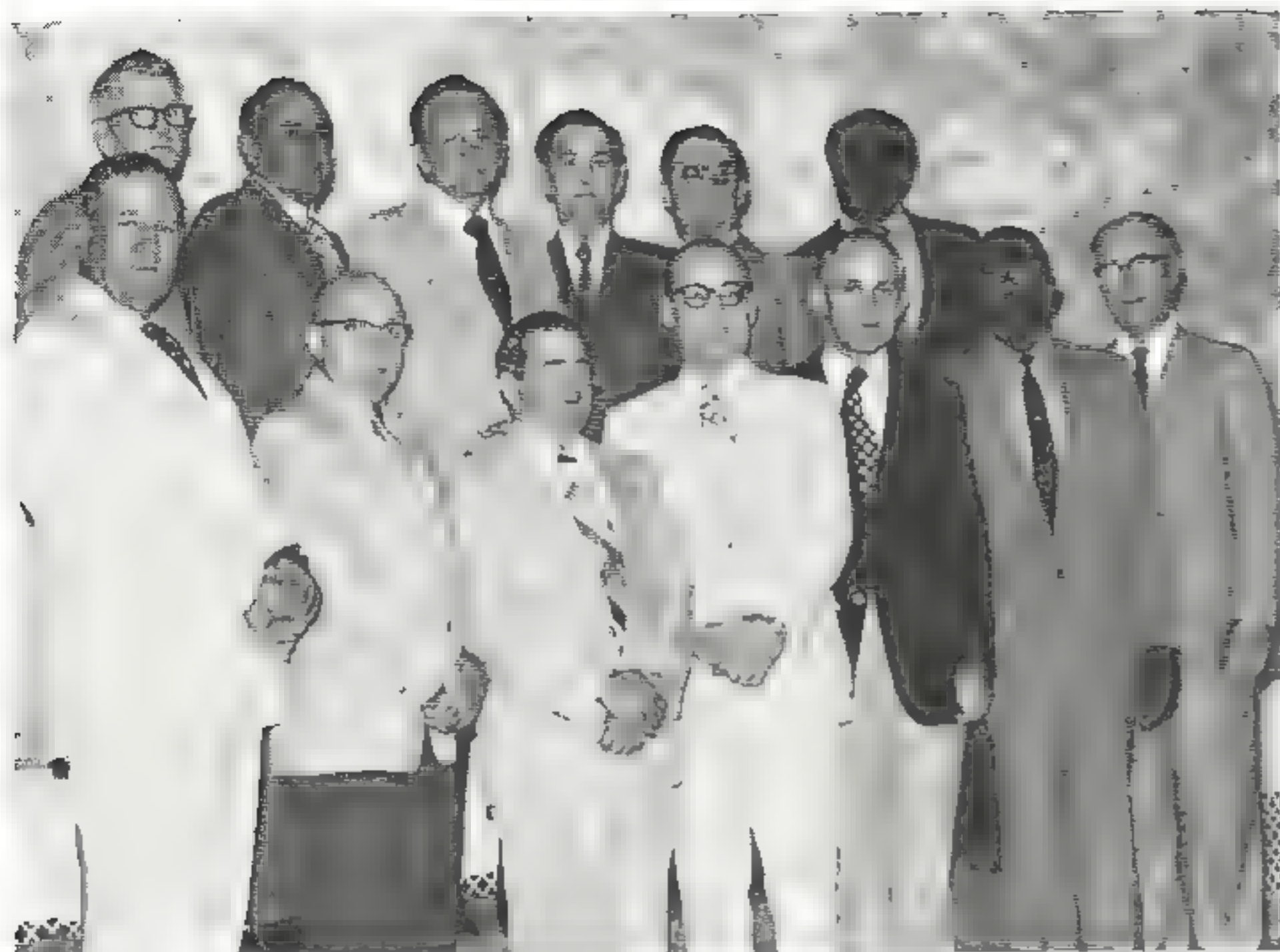
Conroe



10 YEARS — Chairman of the Board Floyd Smith, Robert W. Gajeske, Patricia Y. Jones and Kenneth A. Enloe.



20 YEARS — Chairman of the Board Floyd Smith and James C. West Jr.



30 YEARS — Charles W. Cabaniss, Henry O. Jenkins, Roy N. Beatty, Mike J. Edwards, Boyd S. Eisworth, Joseph Blakes and Chairman of the Board Floyd Smith. Back row: Eddie Atkinson, Junior F. Aubin, Clarence Bailey, Dallas David, R. J. Jarreau Jr. and Harvey Hatch.



30 YEARS — Front row: Lucien J. Lesage, Philip E. Levert, M. C. McCormick Jr., Daniel A. Rose, Albert J. Weimer, Malcolm C. Percle and Chairman of the Board Floyd Smith. Back row: Walter W. Jones, Joseph L. Mayeaux, Joseph C. Pizzuto, John L. Phillips, Clarence C. Shaffer and Charles N. Schlatre.

Baton Rouge



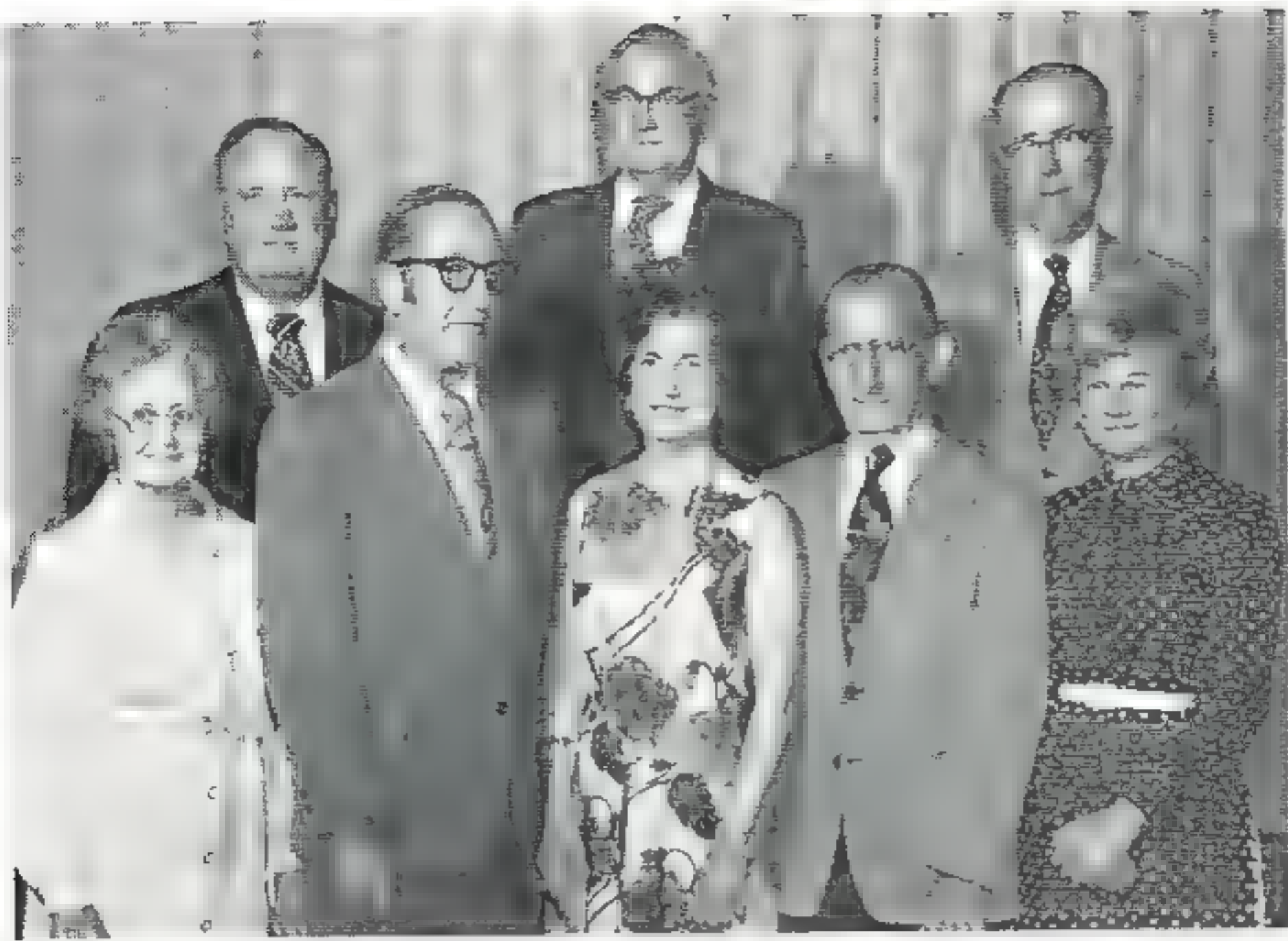
20 YEARS — Sevear Young, Bettie N. Smith, Carrol A. Wilson, Jack Worthy and Chairman of the Board Floyd Smith. Back row: Jack Sirman, Jim Taylor and Clifford Touns.



20 YEARS — John L. Kirkwood, Jo Ann Miller, Lois Holden, Bert Kelly and Chairman of the Board Floyd Smith. Back row: Scott Bunch, G. W. Henderson and Joe S. Guercio Jr.



10 YEARS — Front row: Sidney J. Sparks Jr., Joseph Schittone, Robert J. Tassin and Chairman of the Board Floyd Smith. Back row: Jerold E. Cahal, Sidney Dupree Jr. and Roosevelt Norris Jr.



40 YEARS — Front row: Clara Louise Vogel, Ed Vogel, Naomi Haynes, Bob Haynes and LaFrae Smith. Back row: President Norman Lee, Austin Mary and Floyd R. Smith.

Beaumont



30 YEARS — Front Row: President Norman Lee, F. L. Kirkpatrick, Doris S. Flowers, Melba N. Magee and J. O. McCune Jr. Back row: Irvin D. Lafour Jr., Marvin E. Kelley and James H. Sanders.



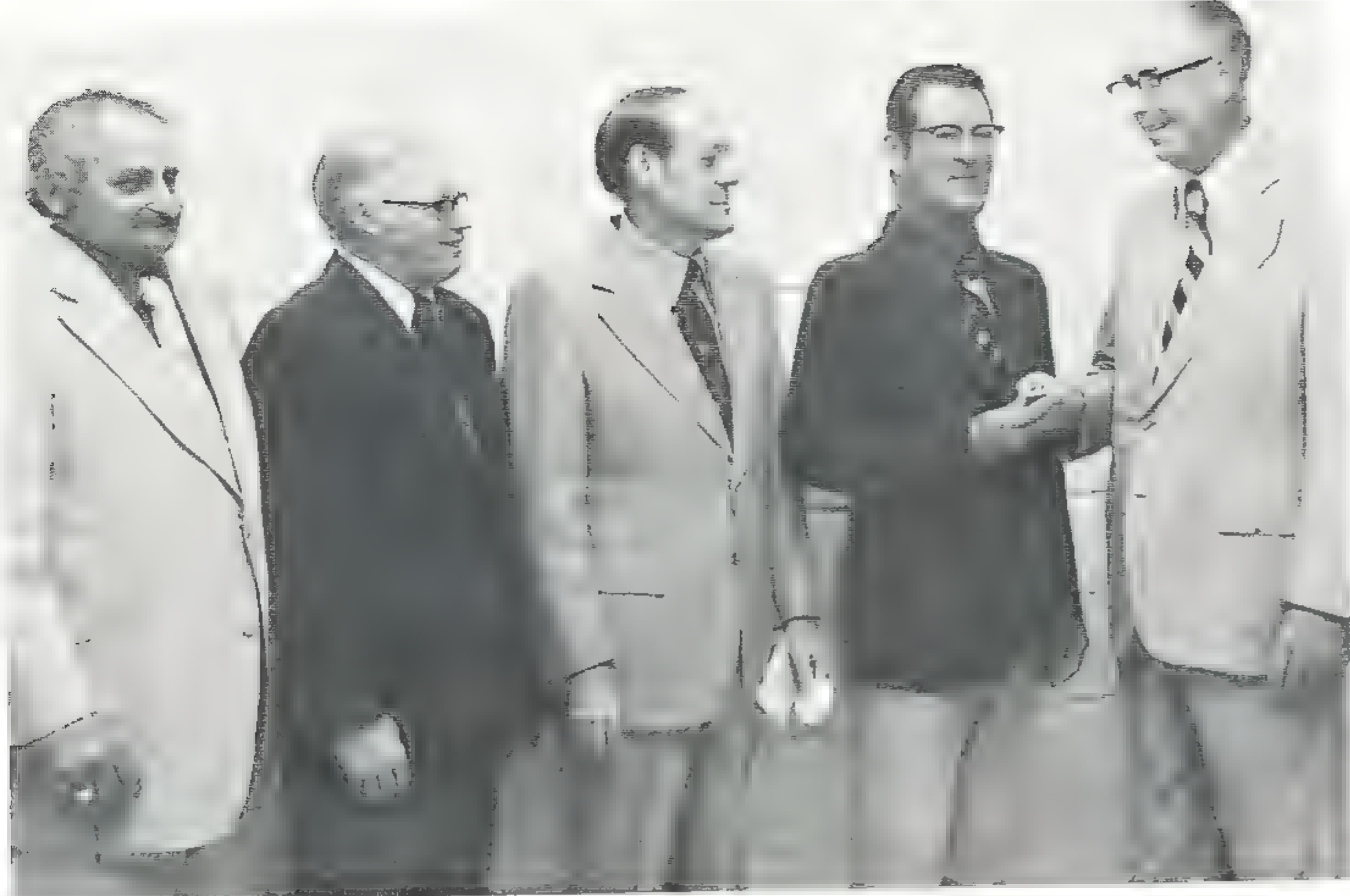
30 YEARS — Front row: Joseph Goffney Jr., J. D. Wilson, Alfred Boswell, Geraldine Wykoff and President Norman Lee. Back row: W. J. Schumacher, S. H. Canfield, John T. Williams and J. M. Wells Jr.



20 YEARS — Front row: President Norman Lee, Jack I. Martin, Virginia C. Welsh, Wanda R. Douglas, Gordon O. Doss and Raymond D. Broussard. Back row: O. Ralph Jones, Alvin J. Phillips, Carol C. Henry and Robert W. Jackson.



10 YEARS — Front row: Thomas R. Coggins, Patricia S. Willett, Stella L. Meza, Charlotte H. Griffin and President Norman Lee. Back row: Bobby J. Parham, James E. Bryant and Everett B. Davis Jr.



30 YEARS — Johnny Vice,
J. C. Queen, Ray Poole,
C. L. Fruge and Chairman
of the Board Floyd Smith.

Port Arthur



10 YEARS — Clovis
Harris, Rayford Grubbs,
Dolores Douglas, Sue
Williams and Chairman of
the Board Floyd Smith.

COFFEE CUP



Newah's New Lon Meauxer

At one of the most exuberant retirement parties in memory, about 170 persons crowded into the Neches Station clubhouse May 19 to wish Alfred M. "Newh" Melancon, standards supervisor, well on his retirement.

Jim Atkins, engineering manager, served as Cajun-for-an-evening moderator of the event.

Atkins commented of the obscurity of Melancon's Bayou Lafourche birthplace — Plattenville. "I asked the Louisiana Highway Dept. where it was, and they said they didn't know," Atkins joked. "They said if I find it, to let them know — they might want to build a road there."

Gene Anderson read a poem (reprinted at right) composed by Lee Snyder, sales representative that worked closely with the standards group.

Highlight of the party was the presentation of a Lon Meauxer — ride-em kind — to Melancon (top right). The gift came complete with specifications and purchase order assuring that it had been purchased "from the lowest low bidder." Among the features were "four wheels to ride on and one to aim with." Melancon had planned to get a mower to help maintain property he owns near Lake Ivanhoe in East Texas. He is also known for teaching persons wishing to learn Cajun patois French their first phrase — "meaux de lon."

Attending the Neches Station bash were Melancon's three daughters (top left). A cookies and punch reception was held in the Main Office test kitchen June 1, the day of Melancon's retirement, for Melancon and his wife, Toodles.

Melancon said he picked up the nickname "Newah" when he was in junior high school in Baton Rouge and worked behind a soda fountain at the Vogue — a hangout for LSU students. Some college girls had seen a cartoon comedy movie in which a little bear was named Newah. The bear reminded them of young Melancon and he was so christened.

An Ode to Melancon

There once was a fellow from Louisiana land
A very find Cajun of the tribal band
Who learned to speak Cajun talk
Near a moon beefore he could walk

Then one day he learned to say
Words about the crawfish another way
His thoughts were forced in another tongue
At school it was, speak American, or your bottom stung

Grammer school, high school, and off to college
With a BS in EE to show his knowledge
For here it was that the "Little Bear"
Received a new name, from he knew not where

"Newah" was not his real name
But it fit just the same
Now a visit home from the great university
The natives were astounded at the new diversity

A stranger now in Plattenville on Bayou LaFourche
He was now the Educated Coonass from Baton Rouge
Then came a day he acquired better gumption
His head was turned straight in assumption

Things had changed, he met his match
His life of debauchery was down the hatch
For "Toodles" it was, we can safely say
Made a gentleman out of a boy who liked to play

The years pass by from L S & U
Off to a job with G S & U
After more than 30 of time and toil
We honor this Beaumonter from Louisiana soil.

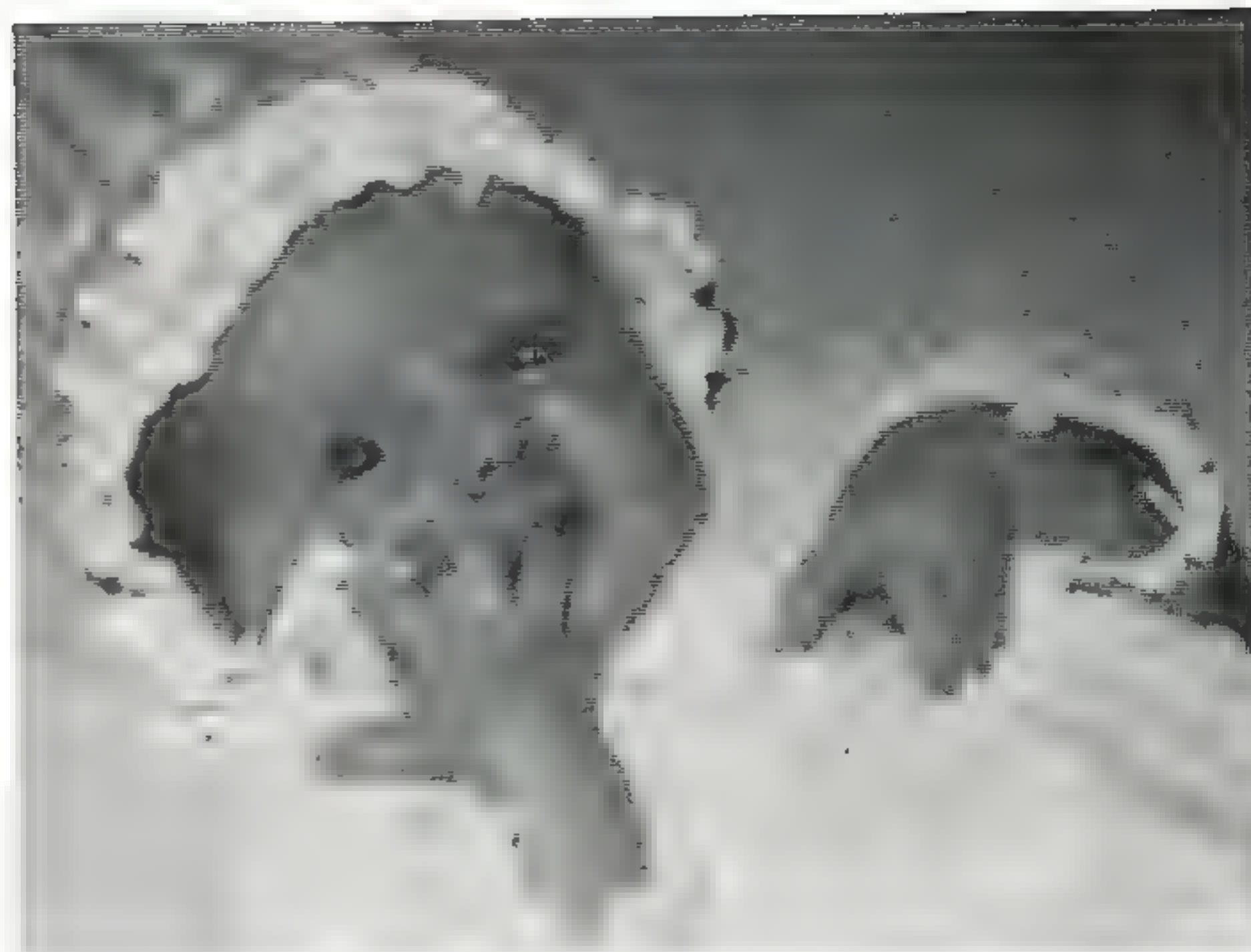
—Lee Snyder



CUTE HUNTSVILLE HOKES — Susan Hoke (left), 2, and her sister Linetta, 6, were featured in this enchanting picture on the front page of the June 21 *Huntsville Item*, the town's daily newspaper. The girls are daughters of Bobby Hoke, serviceman first class in Huntsville. They were watching their sister, Cari, 8, play in a softball game. (from Karen Morely. Photo: *Huntsville Item*.)



PREJEAN'S PROGENY — Johnny Prejean, storeroom supervisor in Lake Charles, sent in these pictures of his two granddaughters Angel (left), 7, and Kristi, 5, St. Romain. They are daughters of Johnny's daughter, Deborah St. Romain of Lake Charles. (from Johnnie Stelly)



PREMIER PETITE ENFANT — The first grandchild of Oray Hernandez, district serviceman in Abbeville, was dressed up in antique babywear for this picture. Karen Aline Hernandez, born in February, wore the traditional hand-sewn, lacy garments worn by Oray's wife when she was a baby. (from Mona Burris)



BICENTENNIAL WINNER — John Malik (white shorts), T&D engineer in Lake Charles, placed fifth in the July 4th open sailboat regatta in Lake Charles in his new Hobie 16 — Old Glory, a limited edition catamaran with a Bicentennial sail pattern. "I was in second place until the wind died down late in the race," Malik said. Twenty-five sailboats raced two laps around a triangular course in Lake Charles. "This was the first official race for my new boat," Malik said. "I just got it in early June. It's a fast boat. It's been clocked at 25.9 miles per hour, which is pretty hellacious for a sailboat. Gosh, it flies!"

Kelly Powell retiring to Cheneyville ranch

by Mona Burris
Lafayette

J. Kelly Powell was given a rousing sendoff into his retirement May 28 by 145 friends gathered at the Lafayette office.

The often capricious spring weather cooperated with a beautiful evening for all to enjoy barbecued chicken dinners and the good company.

Powell spent 44 years with Gulf States and was service foreman since 1953. He and his wife, Gladys, plan to spend much of their retirement at a hide-away in Cheneyville in central Louisiana.

When Powell first joined the Company, he would repair appliances in his spare time. Russell Bonnet figured Powell would have a lot of spare time during retirement and presented the honoree with a broken fan for him to fix and return.

More constructive gifts included a power saw, gasoline can, carrying case, two fifths of whiskey and cash. He also received a slingshot to use to shoot birds bothering his pecan trees and a jump rope to help him stay in shape.



Mrs. Powell was given a corsage and a cameo pin in recognition of her many years as a Gulf States wife.



TEARFUL TUCKER — A tearful Susan Tucker received a handmade leather purse and a \$50 bill at her going away party at the Beaumont Service Center March 19. Ms. Tucker transferred from departmental clerk in the Beaumont T&D engineering department to the same classification in the Choctaw storeroom in Baton Rouge. She requested the transfer to be close to members of her family in Baton Rouge and Slidell, La. The parting from her friends at the service center, where she had worked eight years, however, was very emotional. "I've never cried that much," Ms. Tucker said. "I miss all my sweeties in Beaumont." (from Carolyn Motl)

When you're hot, you're hot

When Ron Phillips, senior engineering assistant in system transmission planning, got his long-awaited transfer to Port Arthur as communications serviceman second class, his Main Office compadres had a special gift for him April 30.

Wrapped in wire and decorated with resistors and a vacuum tube was a fine pair of insulated, spring-loaded wire cutters.

The insulation is important.

"I really appreciate this," Phillips said. "Last year I was measuring an extension cord at home and cut it with my wire cutters while it was still plugged in.

"You talk about boogering up a pair of wire cutters. Sparks everywhere. The lights went out. Scared the hell out of me. It was really stupid. The cutters were insulated, so I didn't get hurt, but they don't cut wire very well anymore."

Phillips is taking electronics courses at Lamar at night, so he said he's delighted to have an opportunity to work with electronics during the days. He will be working on the microwave system in the Port Arthur Division.

"Anybody who wants to call Port Arthur better do it in a hurry," one of Phillips' friends joked.





'RETIRING' REPORTER — Johnnie Stelly, departmental clerk for the Lake Charles engineering and right-of-way departments, "retired" June 18, leaving the Company to become a full-time housewife. Mrs. Stelly was presented a key to the City of Lake Charles by Sammie Bono, service supervisor and a Lake Charles city councilman. She also received some perfume and a pair of diamond earrings. Mrs. Stelly was long one of the most enthusiastic *Plain Talks* reporters in the system. (from Edith Patterson)



ROD WILL RETURN — Rod Griffith, co-op engineer in the Beaumont T&D engineering department, was given a going away (sort of) party May 28 at the service center. He is attending summer classes at Lamar University and will return to Gulf States in the fall. Rod was joined at the party by his wife, Vicki, and daughter, Sarah. (from Carolyn Motl)



NOSTALGIC GOODBYE — The famous Beaumont Service Center chorus line held a reunion June 28 to bid farewell to David Smythia, T&D engineer transferred to the technical services department in the Main Office. Smythia was feted with a cake, beverages and sobs from "all his favorite people." Left to right are Rose Ann Johnson, Pam Walker, Carolyn Motl, Smythia, Linda Smith, Flo Strawther and Jo Anne Landry. (from Carolyn Motl)



LITTLE LAMM — Jason Keith Lamm (left) is the new grandson of John Lamm, Lafayette district superintendent. Jason was born Feb. 11 and photographed a day later. He is shown with his older brother, Brant Lamm, 4. The baby weighed 8 pounds, ½ ounce at birth. He is the son of Keith and Becky Lamm. (from Mona Burris)

When you have any news or a story you think would be interesting to other Gulf Staters, contact the reporter nearest to you, or write or call the **PLAIN TALKS** editor, Mike Ross, in Beaumont. Notify **PLAIN TALKS** reporters of any event that is happening in your area that the magazine should cover. A complete list of reporters and their locations is given below. If any persons named are no longer with the company or no longer active reporters, please contact Mike Ross. Persons wishing to become **PLAIN TALKS** reporters should also contact the editor. We can never have too many reporters.

Reporters

BATON ROUGE: Margie Force (T&D); T. Boone Chaney (T&D), Melanie Hima (T&D), Jack Gautreaux (T&D), James W. Bello (T&D), Gerilyn Williams (Gas), Glenda Boyd (Acct.), Mary Smith, Robert Graves (Storeroom), Susan Wilks, Debbie Lynn (Engr.), Linda Nelson (Meter), Debbie Reeves (Sub.)

BEAUMONT: Bill Toups (S.C.), Carolyn Motl (T&D), Ann Ogden, Edy Mathews, Dorothy Nowell, Carolyn Thaggard, Gina Collins.

CALVERT: Betty Dowell.

CLEVELAND: Pat Jones, Edd Mitchell.

CONROE: Frances Elliot, Bobbie Burke.

DENHAM SPRINGS: Lenelle Juban.

GONZALES: Billie Fortenberry.

HUNTSVILLE: Karen Morley.

JENNINGS: Earl Mayfield.

LAFAYETTE: Mona Burris.

LAKE CHARLES: Billie Belvin (Garage), Edith Patterson (T&D), Janet Followay.

LA. STATION: Marilyn Nicholson.

LEWIS CREEK: D. W. Rutherford.

MADISONVILLE: Jean Tinsley.

NAVASOTA: Betty Dickschat.

NECHES STATION: Gene Russell.

NELSON STATION: Martha Caldwell.

NEW CANEY: Diana Winkelmann, Paul Mosley.

ORANGE: Doris Womack.

PORT ALLEN: Adele Vavasseur.

PORT ARTHUR: Sue Williams, Lorraine Dunham (S.C.)

SABINE STATION: Darlene Faires, Fred Kressman.

SOMERVILLE: Mary Brock.

SULPHUR: Pearl Burnett.

WILLOW GLEN: Dora Landaiche, James Veatch.

WOODVILLE: Alene Cole.

ZACHARY: Myra Ponthier.



TOP TEACHING GRADUATE — Becky Bradley, daughter of Victor Bradley, shift supervisor at Neches Station, was graduated with highest honors from Lamar University May 15. She received a B.S. in elementary education with teacher certification in mathematics, kindergarten and special education. She is a member of the Texas Student Educational Association, Alpha Lambda Delta and Phi Kappa Phi honor society. This fall she will teach elementary school in Baytown, Tex.



BRIGHT BYRDS — Two children of Eunice Byrd, utility truck driver in Lake Charles, have made honor rolls at their colleges. David Paul Byrd (above), was cited for his good grades in the College of Pharmacy and Allied Health Professions at Northeast Louisiana University in Monroe. Rebecca Byrd is an honor student majoring in computer science at McNeese State University in Lake Charles. (from Johnnie Stelly)



EAGLE SCOUT — Craig Clark, son of Tom Clark, consumer services supervisor in Port Arthur, earned his Eagle award in scouting recently. He is an honor student at Edison Junior High School, where he is a member of the contests choir, chess club, Junior Honor Society and basketball team. Clark has served a scribe for his Boy Scout troop and has been active in the Methodist Temple. (from Sue Williams)



GRADUATING GAUTREAUX — Jimmy Gautreaux, son of Russel R. Gautreaux, electrician at Louisiana Station, was graduated recently from Delgado College in New Orleans. Gautreaux earned an Associate of Science degree in electronic services technology. He plans to continue his education at LSU with study in electrical engineering. Gautreaux is pictured at a graduation party in his honor held at a friend's house in Kenner, La.

Harriet's party treats



Harriet Babin
Baton Rouge

EXOTIC CHICKEN SALAD

4 cups chopped cooked chicken
Two 5 oz. cans water chestnuts, sliced
1 cup finely chopped celery
1 lb. fresh seedless grapes (2 cups)
1 cup toasted slivered almonds
1 cup mayonnaise
1 1/2 tps. curry powder
1 Tbsp. soy sauce
1 Tbsp. lemon juice
One 1 lb. can pineapple chunks

Combine chicken, water chestnuts, celery, grapes and almonds. Mix mayonnaise, curry powder, soy sauce and lemon juice. Add seasoned mayonnaise to chicken mixture and chill several hours. Serve on lettuce leaf and top with pineapple chunks or spoon into center of gelatin-fruit ring mold. Serves 8 to 10.

Ring Mold for Salad

One 6 oz. pkg. or two 3 oz. pkgs.
lemon flavored gelatin
1 cup boiling water
2 1/2 cups cold water
1 cup grapefruit sections or one 8 oz.
can pineapple chunks, well-drained
Mayonnaise

Dissolve gelatin in boiling water. Stir in cold water and chill until the consistency of egg whites. Add grapefruit. Grease 1 or 1 1/2 qt. ring mold with mayonnaise and pour mixture into the mold. Chill until set.

SPICY VEGETABLE DIP

1 cup dairy sour cream
2 tps. lemon juice
1 Tbsp. red wine vinegar
2 tps. salt
1/4 tsp. dry mustard
1 tsp. paprika
Dash of red pepper
1/2 tsp. prepared mustard
2 tps. horse-radish

In a small bowl, mix ingredients in the order listed. Chill at least 2 hours before serving. May be prepared a day early. Serve with assorted vegetables, sliced or cut in one-inch squares. Suggested vegetables: carrots, cauliflower, green peppers, radishes, turnips and yellow squash.

CUCUMBER DIP

Two 3 oz. pkgs. cream cheese
1 1/3 cups minced cucumber, drained well
2 Tbps. mayonnaise
2 Tbps. dairy sour cream
1 1/2 tps. grated onion
1/2 tsp. salt
Dash of white pepper
Paprika

Stir cheese until softened, add next 6 ingredients and mix well. Chill thoroughly. Garnish with paprika and serve with assorted crackers, pretzel sticks or chips. Makes approximately 2 cups.

GRASSHOPPER PIE

Chocolate Cookie Crust
3 cups miniature marshmallows (30 large)
1/2 cup milk
3 Tbps. white creme de menthe
3 Tbps. green creme de menthe
1 cup heavy cream, whipped

Prepare crust listed below. Combine marshmallows and milk over medium heat, beating until marshmallows have melted. Cool. Fold creme de menthe into the whipped cream, then fold this mixture into the marshmallow mix. Pour into chilled crust and refrigerate 4 hours before serving. Serves 8.

Chocolate Cookie Crust

1 1/2 cups crushed chocolate creme-filled cookies (15 to 20) cookies
3 Tbps. butter or margarine

Crush cookies, preferably by placing between waxed paper and using rolling pin. In 9-inch pie plate, melt butter and stir in cookie crumbs. Press into bottom and up sides of dish to form crust. Bake at 325 degrees 10 minutes. Cool before adding filling. Note: To prepare Grasshopper Pie in the microwave oven, cook Chocolate Cookie Crust 2 minutes. For the filling, cook the marshmallow-milk mixture until marshmallows begin to puff but are not completely melted. Other directions remain the same.

MOLDED SHRIMP SALAD

One envelope unflavored gelatin (1 Tbsp.)
2 Tbps. lemon juice
1/4 cup mayonnaise
1/2 tsp. salt
Dash of Tabasco pepper sauce
1 cup diced cooked shrimp
1 1/2 tps. grated onion
1/2 cup chopped stuffed olives
2 Tbps. chopped pimiento
2 hard-cooked eggs, chopped

Soften gelatin in lemon juice; dissolve over hot water. Add mayonnaise, salt and pepper sauce. Combine shrimp, onion, olives, pimiento and eggs; stir in gelatin mixture. Pour into lightly greased 1 1/2 qt. mold. Chill until firm. Serves 4.

LEMON SHERBET

4 cups milk
2 cups sugar
1/4 cup lemon juice

Combine milk and sugar and stir until sugar is dissolved. Add lemon juice. Freeze until firm in an electric or crank-type ice cream freezer. Makes 1 1/2 qts.

RITZY PIE

16 round buttery crackers, finely crumbled
1 cup chopped pecans or walnuts
3 egg whites
1 cup sugar
1 tsp. vanilla
Vanilla ice cream

Combine crackers and nuts. Beat egg whites until stiff; add sugar. Fold into nut mixture; add vanilla. Pour mixture into a well-greased 9-inch pie plate and bake at 300 degrees 45 minutes until golden brown. Cool and refrigerate. For serving, top each slice of pie with a scoop of vanilla ice cream. Serves 8.

Note: Ritzy Pie may be made a day before serving.

STRAWBERRY PINEAPPLE CUPS

One 9 oz. can pineapple tidbits (1 cup)
1 cup sliced drained strawberries, sweetened fresh or thawed frozen
1 cup miniature marshmallows
1/4 cup broken pecans
1 envelope unflavored gelatin (1 Tbsp.)
1/4 cup mayonnaise or salad dressing
1 cup heavy cream, whipped

Drain pineapple, reserving syrup. Combine pineapple, strawberries, marshmallows and nuts. Soften gelatin in 3 Tbps. of the reserved pineapple syrup. Heat remaining syrup just to boiling and add to gelatin. Stir to dissolve. Add to fruit mixture. Fold mayonnaise into whipped cream, then fold into fruit-nut mixture. Fill paper bake cups placed in muffin pans. Freeze until firm. Serves 16.

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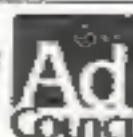
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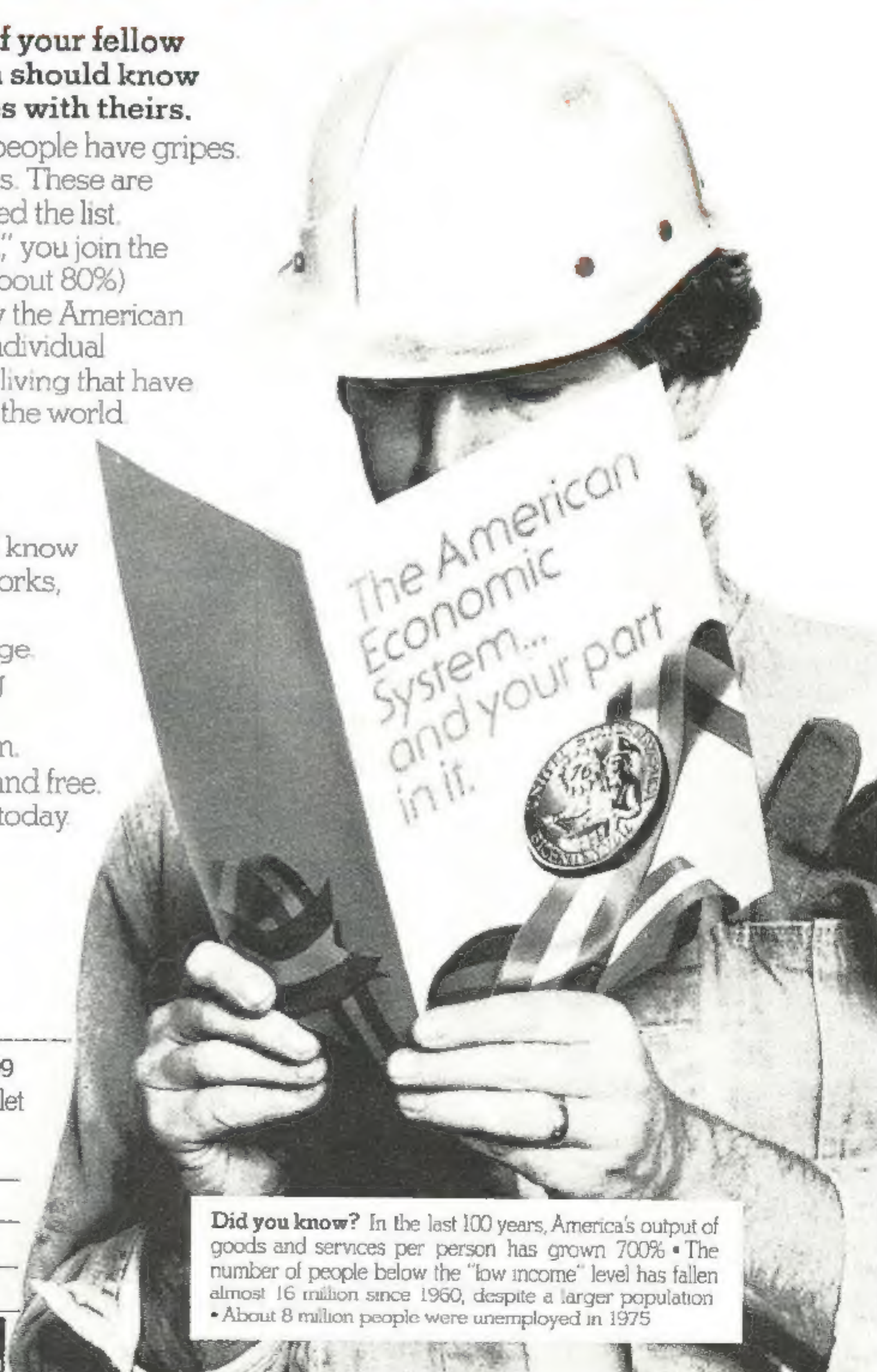
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